NIAGARA NEWS

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NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

College says new campus will avoid axe

All capital projects in province under review

By DEAN MICHEL
Staff Writer

Niagara College officials express "confidence" construction of the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake and renovations to the Welland campus will proceed as scheduled.

The previous NDP government committed $32 million to the Niagara College Master Plan, a comprehensive plan for the upgrading of existing and construction of new facilities at Niagara College. However, last July, the Tory government placed a provincewide review on all capital spending projects.

Rick Bassett, of St. Catharines, chair of the Niagara College Board of Governors, says he "feels very confident things will proceed. Our project makes sense. We've done our homework."

The proposed 20-hectare Glendale campus, at the corner of Glendale and Taylor roads, is expected to be the home for up to 1,700 students from the health sciences, environment, horticulture and continuing education disciplines.

Since the groundbreaking ceremony June 13th, earthmovers have stripped a layer of topsoil from the site.

Project Manager Warren Yule says although the project is under review, preliminary work such as obtaining government regulatory permits and tendering contracts, have continued.

Yule says he's "very optimistic" the Master Plan is going to proceed.

"In spite of this review process the province is going through, they have not told us to stop the project," says Yule. "At this point the opening date of September 1997 is not in jeopardy.

"I anticipate having a confirmation of our funding in time enough so that we will not have to alter our completion date," Yule adds.

'I have absolute confidence the new campus will go ahead.'

— College President John Saso

Lawrence Naftulin, chief executive officer of the Niagara College Foundation, says "no capital project in the province is moving ahead. We are in that category.

"We've been given no indication from the government that the project has been cancelled," says Naftulin.

Niagara College President John Saso remains optimistic about the Glendale campus. "I have absolute confidence the new campus will go ahead."

Wendy Seminchuk, spokesperson for St. Catharines-Brock MPP Tom Froese, told the *Niagara News* "because it's under review, Mr. Froese is not at liberty to speak on the issue."

St. Catharines Mayor Al Unwin originally lobbied for the new campus to be built in his city's downtown core. Although the site approved for the new campus is outside his municipality, Unwin says he hopes the project will not be axed.

However, Unwin says provincial confirmation of the Glendale Campus "is still a shaky situation.

Announcement on project expected in October

"If the Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls was completely built and it was cancelled, then the Glendale campus is very vulnerable," says Unwin.

On Sept. 8, Liberal House Leader Jim Bradley (MPP St. Catharines) told the *Niagara News*: "I am aware that the government is reviewing all of its expenditures and no doubt this is one of those expenditures under review."

Bradley says he expects an announcement from Queen's Park on the project sometime in October.

With notes from Sarah Murrell

Hospitality and Tourism Centre to be renamed Maid of the Mist Centre

College receives $500,000 gift

By TERESA ARMSTRONG
Staff Writer

Niagara College has received a $500,000 gift from the Glynn family of Niagara Falls, the owners and operators of the Maid of the Mist Steamboat Co. Ltd., in Niagara Falls.

The announcement was made by President John Saso at a Board of Governors meeting Sept. 14.

Saso told the board the Maid of the Mist is a big part of tourism in the Niagara Region and that the gift will help fund the Hospitality and Tourism Centre on Dunn Street in Niagara Falls.

In turn, the centre will be remained Maid of the Mist Centre in recognition of the contribution.

During the board meeting, Saso said the "fine family spoke glowingly of the college."

The Glynn family has also commissioned a fifth Maid of the Mist steamboat.

The $1.3-million addition to the tourist-carrying fleet is expected to be in service for the 1997 season.

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Is that ball yours or is it mine?

When it comes to juggling classes, schedules and finances, some students are wishing they had two heads and four arms.
Photo by Will Webster

College president resigns

By SARAH MURRELL
Staff Writer

The time is nearly up for John Saso as president of Niagara College.

Saso tendered his resignation on July 24 and announced he has accepted a position with the Upper Canada Law Society as chief executive officer.

"I put time limits on positions I take on," says Saso. "The board asked me how long I saw myself as president of the college and I told them four to six years. Next April will be six years."

The college has enjoyed some successes under Saso's leadership. Since he was named president in 1990, student enrolment has gone up 60 per cent, a $2.4-million deficit is expected to enter the black and plans for a new campus have been finalized.

"I'm sad to see John leave the college," said Rick Bassett, of St. Catharines, chair of Niagara College's Board of Governors. "He will leave a very successful legacy . . . the college has made great strides in the past six years."

Niagara and Brock host conference

'A clearing house of ideas'

By WILL WEBSTER
Staff Writer

Niagara College and Brock University will host the central division Canadian Association of College Activities (COCA) conference Nov. 17 to 20.

This is the first time a community college and university have combined to host the annual event. It is expected to draw more than 200 delegates from across Ontario and Quebec.

The COCA mandate is to provide training and resource aid to student programmers.

After Hours manager David Rapelje and Brock Student Union Activities Co-ordinator Chris Thompson are organizing the three-day event to be held at the Embassy Suites in Thorold.

The event features 25 education seminars and performances by 15 major Canadian entertainers, plus a keynote address. Performances will be open to students at no cost and will take place at After Hours, the Brock University pub Isaacs, and five other facilities in the Niagara Region. Education seminars will take place at the Embassy Suites (chosen because of its central location to both campuses).

Rapelje calls the conference a "clearing house of ideas" and says the benefits to the college will be numerous.

"I think it is important for students who have an interest in this to have an opportunity to meet with other student programmers, across Ontario and Quebec, so they can exchange views and talk about things they've done that have worked," said Rapelje. "The benefit really is that everybody has a chance to warehouse all their ideas, concerns, things that have worked and not worked."

Scott Verhoeven, Student Administrative Council vice-president social, calls the conference a chance for Niagara College to "put itself on the map" with other schools in the central region.

"Bringing the conference here is going to show people that we really have our game plan together, and we know exactly what we're doing, where we're heading," said Verhoeven. "Not only is it going to look good for the programming department . . . but it is also going to look good for Niagara the school. People are going to look at Niagara in a totally different light."

Verhoeven said the conference should help to encourage more prospective students to consider Niagara as a viable place to go to school. "A lot of good can come out of it as far as getting new students, bigger shows, better bands, better entertainers. It is really going to benefit not only SAC but the students as well."

Costs for the conference are covered by delegate fees. The Niagara College SAC will post a $3,000 fully refundable deposit to cover set up expenses. Any profit from the conference will be split "50-50" between COCA and the two student administrations. According to Rapelje, last year's host, Mohawk College, in Hamilton, earned a profit of $10,000 from the event.

Thompson and Rapelje are inviting submissions from entertainers and educators interested in participating in the events.

Another increase?

Possible charge to students for new technology

By SARAH MURRELL
Staff Writer

Niagara College President John Saso and the Student Administrative Council (SAC) are considering a plan to increase student fees — possibly to buy new technology.

Saso raised the issue with SAC of increasing student fees by $35 to upgrade the college's technology equipment. "I'm aware of a college doing this and others considering it," he said.

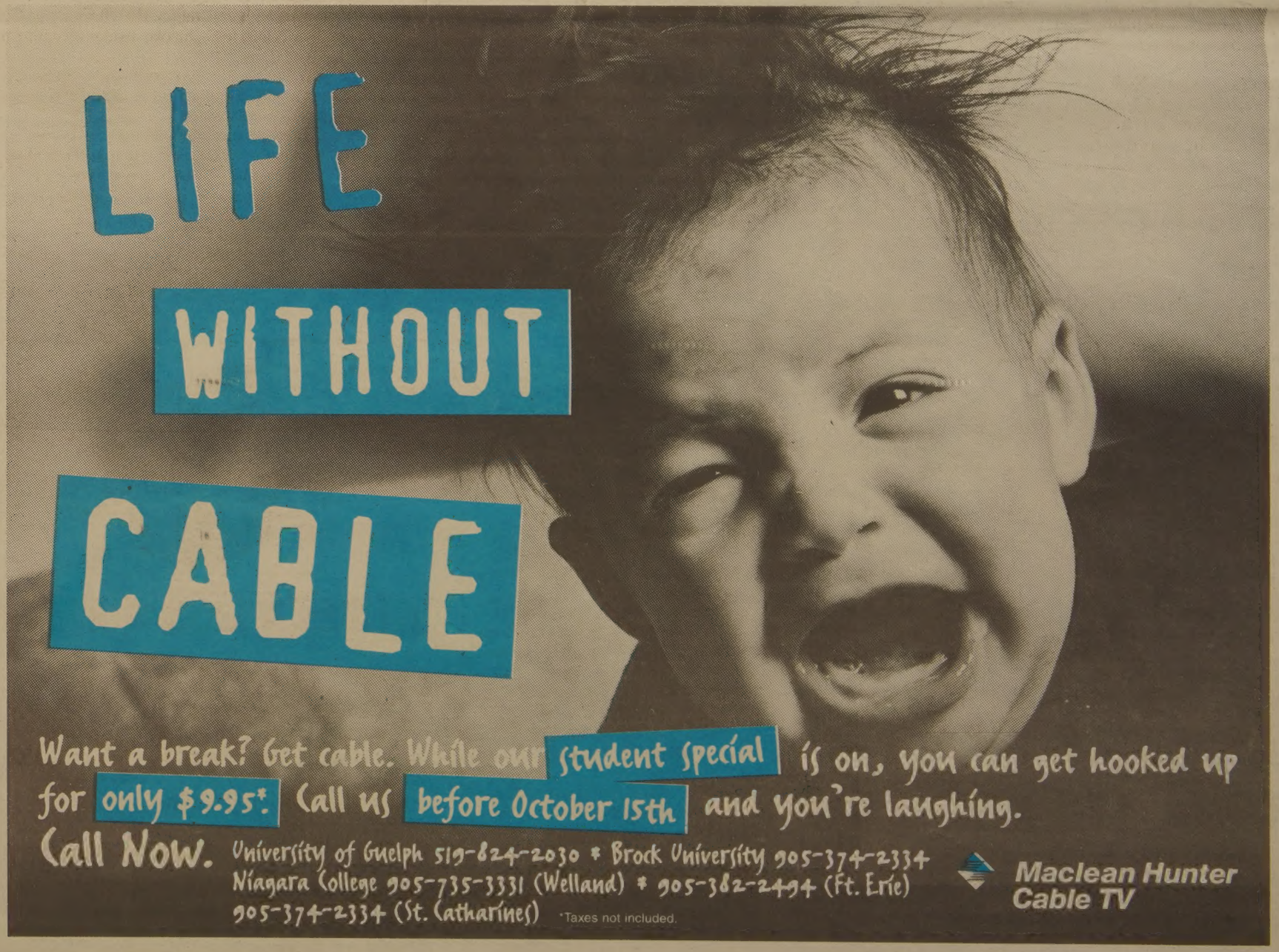
The money, $175,000 a term, would go into a designated fund and the students would decide its use. "Some examples of what the money could be used for," says Saso, "are laptops (computers) the students can take home or by using a lottery system to give students old equipment as the technology is upgraded."

'It's food for thought.'

The reasoning is to "make state-of-the-art equipment readily available to the students. It would give students the advantage when they walk into a company or start their own business."

"We were invited to discuss the issue," said Bren Briggs, SAC president. "It's food for thought."

"I want students to begin to think about it and not put it on the back burner," said Saso. "I think it's a good plan."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Presidential search just beginning

Committee will gather input

By SARAH MURRELL
Staff Writer

The search is on for a new president of Niagara College, with or without the help of students.

Following the announced resignation of President John Saso in July, the Board of Governors formed a Presidential Search Committee to choose a replacement.

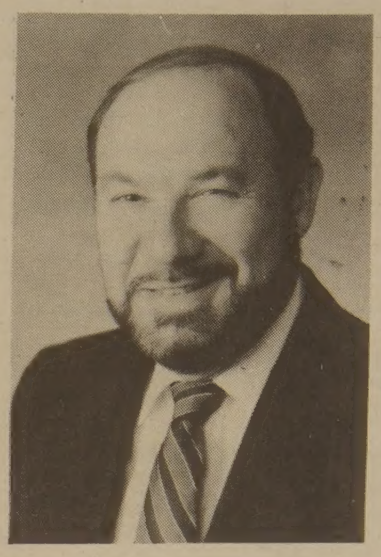
The committee consists of 11 people, with one person representing students, faculty, support staff, and administration. Of the remaining members, six are current board members and one is a past chairman — Bernard Baril.

Baril is a "good choice because he has been through this process before," says Rick Bassett, of St. Catharines, chair of the Board of Governors and also chair of the Presidential Search Committee.

With help from Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants and Management Consultants of Toronto, the committee will gather input from faculty and students to create a candidate profile that will be used to assess applicants.

The committee issued questionnaires and held meetings asking what skills a new president will need and the challenges he or she will face.

"Over 100 of the forms have been turned in," says Bassett. "We think we have a reasonable cross section of people."



JOHN SASO

Paul Crath and Keith McLean, executive search consultants with Price Waterhouse, led meetings at three campuses on Sept. 12. Six people attended the meeting at Welland campus, with five of them from Media and Design programs.

"This is a bad time to do this," said McLean. "I think students are busy with classes and registration rather than disinterested."

The few people present at the meeting were willing participants in the process. Everyone offered ideas and opinions on the new president, the college, and school spirit.

"I think we got some pretty healthy feedback," said Bassett.

A new college president is expected to be named in October or November.

RICK BASSETT

Help is available

By JOHN ROUSSEL
Staff Writer

Financial difficulty is one of the top three reasons for students to leave school, says Brigitte Chiki, Niagara College's director of student life and success.

For those in financial need, help is available. The emergency loan fund — including food vouchers — and counselling are available to students in "serious financial difficulty," she says.

Information about the emergency loan fund and bursaries is at the financial aid office. Decisions dealing with the bursaries are considered February to March. The emergency loan fund is for students whose Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) has not arrived, said Elaine Grandmaison, associate registrar.

When there was a mistake made on second-year Journalism-Print student Ron Duguay's OSAP forms at the OSAP office in Thunder Bay, Ont., the emergency loan fund was able to assist him. "People at the college were very helpful," he said. "I'll have food next week." The money borrowed is repaid when his OSAP money arrives.

Emergency resources are available at the counselling office.

"Fifteen students were helped last year," Chiki said. These resources are for students in financial trouble, such as being unable to buy food or who are living in cars.

Donations are made through the Niagara College Foundation. "We want to get to the business of helping students," said Lawrence Naftulin, chief executive officer of the Niagara College Foundation.

Saso achieved his goals

By SARAH MURRELL
Staff Writer

When John Saso was appointed president of Niagara College, he set goals for himself and the college, many of which have been achieved.

When he came to Niagara in 1990, Saso brought a great deal of experience in both management and education. He graduated from Sir Wilfrid Laurier University in 1968 with a bachelor of arts degree and completed a law degree at Osgoode Hall Law School in 1978.

Saso worked in sales and personnel management with Eaton's of Canada and the Bay; he was vice-president of sales and marketing with Industrial Estate Holding Corporation, and was in product management and marketing with Xerox of Canada.

Saso was a full-time instructor at Georgian College in Barrie for two years before being promoted to director of human resources and then to vice-president of finance and administration. He left Georgian College in 1986 to become vice-president of administration at Humber College in Etobicoke, before accepting the position of president at Niagara.

In 1990, the college had a "solid foundation and was facing the usual types of problems a college faces when a change takes place," says Saso. His plans for the college included expansion, doubling enrolment, which he achieved at Georgian, and a partnership between the college and business.

solution somewhere down

Saso said he achieved many of his goals: enrolment is up, there is a community focus as the college works with local businesses and the college is expanding as the ground work for a new campus takes place.

"No one leader can do it alone," says Saso of his success at Niagara, "it was the board (Board of Governors) and staff that helped choose the right road and now the road is going to shift again. History will tell us how well we did."

Saso will take on his new position at the Upper Canada Law Society as chief executive officer when a replacement is found, probably in late fall. The position "puts my law background with my management background, it's a good match for me.

"It's hard to leave a group of people that you like and admire," says Saso. "This is the best job I've ever had and I still feel that way today."

New look for career services

By KATHLEEN FERRIS
Staff Writer

Employment Services.

A new name. A new location. That's what's new about Niagara College's former named Co-operative Education and Career Services.

"We feel the new name best describes the business we're in," says manager Leo Tiberi. "It's nice and short, which makes it easier for students and employers to understand."

The office is located in the Simcoe Building, Room S101, across from the Marketing and Communications Department at the Welland campus.

"The change was also part of the (college's) master plan," said Tiberi.

Job boards for part time and volunteer jobs are posted outside the office. Full-time postings, which are career-service related, are listed inside in binders.

In the future Employment Services will have a computer available for students to hook into the Internet to look for jobs and print resumes.

"Over the summer, the department revised the majority of the policies, procedures and practices relating to co-op," Tiberi says.

Employment Services has offices at each of the college's three campuses

A package outlining the new procedures was designed for co-op students. It included the elimination of many procedures that didn't help students or employers.

"It explains quite clearly the conditions for employment and what we can and cannot do," says Tiberi.

The workload re-organization among seven co-op consultants is new. They'll be individually responsible for dealing with two programs each of which will have about 120 students.

"There will still be a lot of flexibility for students because the work term isn't something we necessarily control," says Tiberi. "Employers dictate the jobs, not us, so we have to be flexible from that standpoint. We strongly encourage the co-op students to work closely with their respective co-op consultant to find the career-related work they are looking for."

He invites students to visit the new office.

Employment Services has offices at each of the college's three campuses.

Janet Forfar, a career services officer, has hours at the St. Catharines campus and Christine Drobnich maintains hours for co-op students based on their timetables. Drobnich is co-op consultant for the Environment, Health and Safety, and Horticulture programs.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

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Legal aid needs new rules

Until March 31, 1996, our provincial government has renewed Ontarians' faith that they are guaranteed the right to be represented by legal counsel in court proceedings. When the funding agreement made by the New Democratic Party runs out, the future of legal aid will be uncertain. Legal aid exists for people who lack the funds to retain a solicitor.

Recently the Tory government took a stab at the Law Society of Upper Canada regarding legal aid. On Sept. 14 Premier Mike Harris said the operation of the plan will remain in the hands of the Law Society.

The province claims the system is mismanaged and wants to set a ceiling on the amount of money available to lawyers billing the fund. Legal aid receives funding from the federal and provincial governments.

However, we are skeptical of programs being administered by the government. They are bound with red-tape and senior bureaucrats who are more concerned with protecting their salaries than performing their required duties. Is it not ironic to hear a government say a semi-independent program is run inefficiently and needs to be administered fully by a government board?

We question how a program can be run by outsiders. There is no doubt the closer one is to something, the more knowledge they have to operate it correctly.

There is one serious issue which must be addressed: establishing a funding ceiling. The Law Society argues new lawyers rely on legal-aid to put food in their mouths. On the other hand the government says skyrocketing increases in legal aid billing need to have a cap. This year's allotted funding is $300 million and is expected to be $70 million over budget.

We know the government can revamp programs and create user fees. Harris and company should consider a co-op legal assistance plan so that each client is assessed a user fee based on the ability to pay.

Ben Fisher

Helmet law unnecessary

On Oct.1, Bill 124 will become a lame brain law forcing Ontario's 2.5 million cyclists to wear a helmet or face a $105 fine.

We don't have a beef with bike helmets (or horns, lights, reflective clothing and bicycle safety courses).

Our problem lies with a government which feels the need to protect its citizens as they engage in private leisure activities.

In so doing, government no longer assumes the role of Big Brother. Instead, it becomes Over-Protective Mother ("Wear a warm sweater Johnny or you'll catch a cold!...Stay out of that tree Jenny! You will fall and break your neck!")

We also argue that helmets provide a false sense of security without addressing the cause of accidents— careless cycling and poor driving habits.

Avery Burdette, chair of the Ontario Coalition for Better Cycling, says fewer than one per cent of young people have ever taken a course on safe cycling.

We question the justification for Bill 124.

In an Aug. 20,1995 piece,*Globe and Mail* columnist Andrew Coyne cited statistics which reveal head injuries account for only one in 100,000 cycling fatalities each year in Ontario.

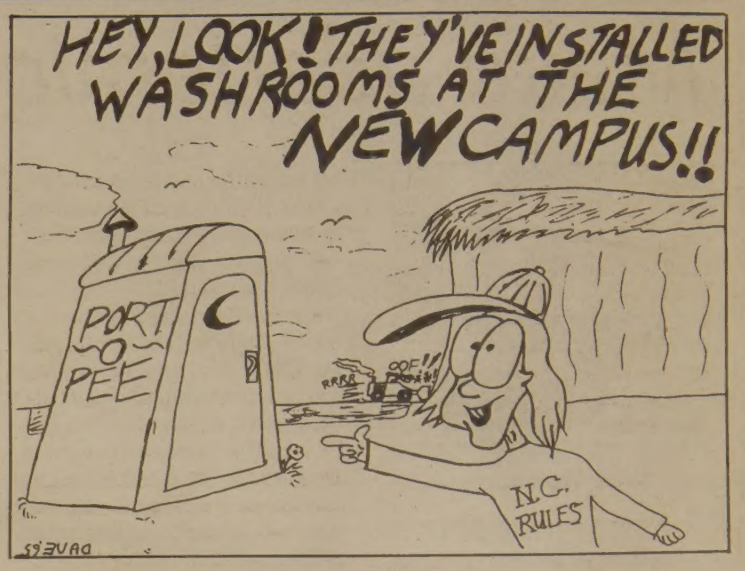
And what about enforcement?

With severe cutbacks to policing inevitable, how can the Tories possibly justify having cops on the hunt for bare-headed cyclists?

Forcing cyclists to don helmets crosses the path between public and private safety.

What further pieces of legislation can we expect to protect us from ourselves? Non-burning ovens, no-slip bathroom floors, rubber-coated fish hooks and anti-gravity boots for homeowners who install their own Christmas lights?

Dean Michel



Letter to the editor

Job well done

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Athletic Department and all the great coaches at Niagara College, I would like to thank you and your staff for the superb job that has been done this year in covering varsity athletics.

The student athletes and coaches have all commented at various times throughout the year how great the coverage has been for all our varsity teams.

Special thanks to Michael Mucaki, Shelley Holden, David Crane, Craig Morrison, Frank Serra and Heath Anderson. They all did a great job.

Our sincere good wishes in all their future endeavors.

Peter Rylander
Athletics Director

Who am I?

Ron Duguay

Hi, I'm not me.

The people at the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) office in Thunder Bay, Ont., know me by name. It's my program identification number that has thrown them for a loop.

It turns out I'm some guy in an engineering program at Niagara College. Until the time I started writing this piece, I could not spell "engineering."

It doesn't bother me that people may think I'm an engineer, but I would like to be known as an aspiring journalist.

It doesn't bother me that the people at OSAP know me by a number. I just wish they would get the right number. Due to a computer error somewhere in the channel between the college and the OSAP office, I now have to wait about a month to receive assistance.

It doesn't bother me that I don't have any money, but I am getting a little on the hungry side. I'm sure the people who made the computer error made that error while they had a full stomach.

If only I could get the job of pay cheque signer at the OSAP office. Perhaps I would forget certain little aspects of the job. I may forget to put their names on their cheques or a little mistake such as signing it.

I know if they became very hungry and frustrated because they had to wait an extra month to get their money, they would certainly make fewer mistakes.

Many people think computers are nothing but a problem. I say it's the people behind them.

I am not a number folks. I am Ronald Duguay.

We're back. We're better.

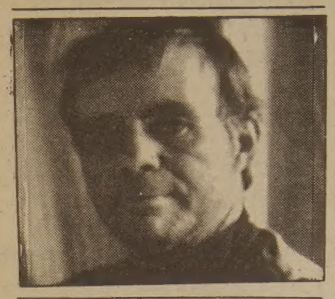
We're back. The Niagara News is bigger and better than ever. Our first edition contains an eight-page Summer Supplement completed by the Journalism-Print program's January-Start students in July.

The interviews and photographs were done in June and July by Tanya Bryan, Debbie Cunningham, Sandra Damico, Celeste Distefano, Bob Giles, Nancy Kimsey, Laury Reid, Jennifer Turner, Stephanie Turton and Ron Wolf.

We hope you enjoy reading this special edition of the Niagara News.

PERSPECTIVES

Make academics the priority at Niagara



Will Webster

For the past several years, the good ship Niagara College has been piloted by a fellow known for his ability as a bean counter. His skill has helped the college to cut some financial corners and build a strong financial accounting of itself.

On the down side, the college has begun to suffer academically. Class sizes have mushroomed, support staff have dwindled, and instructors are harried by the shear volume of papers to be marked. The result has been less interaction between instructors and students, lower class averages and the loss of some of the more skilled instructors to better opportunities elsewhere.

School spirit is damaged. Students care less about their environment and have begun to view the college administration as a greed-driven machine that cares little about them personally.

Some of those responsible may balk, but I challenge them to prove me wrong.

With the selection of a new president, the college has an excellent opportuntiy to move toward reviving the school's academic integrity. Those responsible can do this by choosing a president who is concerned about academic excellence and has a plan to bring about improvement in this area.

The selection committee has voices on both sides of this issue. For those whose primary concern is monetary I will say this; unless the school revives its reputation for academic excellence there will be, in the long run, a loss of income.

Service is the backbone of any business. Make no mistake, college is a business. But like the cafe that opts to use an inferior coffee bean to save money, this college will lose customers. The priority here should be product, not pennies.

Students are paying for an education and it should be the college's priority to insure that education is the best it can possibly be. If it doesn't, the gifted, those who strive for excellence, and the serious students will soon be shopping elsewhere.

So, to the ones who have a voice that will be counted, choose a president with the academic credentials and the money will follow. Choose a bean counter and you will be counting the beans rolling away.

Truth too horrific

Jason Chase

As the Paul Bernardo double murder trial played out, I was able to see the reason behind the publication ban on trial evidence. The truth was too horrific to understand or want to believe.

If we had read about the horror two years prior to trial, the realization of what happened to those young girls would have faded and the truth would have been lost.

I remember everyone arguing we had the right to know, the right to see the darkness, and the right to have front row seats throughout the 'Super Bowl' of trials. Yet after the first week, people began to scalp their seats. I guess the lure and spectacle had lost its glamor, the pain and the insane cruelty Bernardo caused finally sank in and to watch it was too painful.

Just look at the O.J. Simpson double murder case in the United States. The public was given the right to know. Amid all the rumors and hype, justice and truth were lost. The victims and their families were forgotten and misplaced between prosecutor Marcia Clark's new hairstyle and the bloody gloves that didn't fit.

Just think of how the trial might have gone if the door to the media were kept closed? The trial for guilt or innocence would have been played out and the circus would never have started.

So, for once, I applaud those who kept the truth hidden and those who protected us from the horror and pain. We should always remember the victims and the pain the families will endure for the rest of time.

We should forget the nonsense and the outrageous lies and see what the truth is for face value. The truth in the Simpson case lost its edge and freshness, it became the old. So in its place, lies were created to keep the interest of the public and to sell newspapers and advertising.

The publication ban in the Bernardo case kept the truth fresh and it held the public's interest and it allowed justice to be served.

Now, the question can be asked. What about Karla Homolka's deal?

Cuts hit most vulnerable

Nancy Kimsey

In an attempt to please the disgruntled taxpayers of Ontario, Premier Mike Harris has decided to start at the bottom.

He has hit the most vulnerable group in society with cuts to income for social assistance recipients.

Effective Oct. 1, all those receiving Family Benefits or General Welfare Assistance, unless elderly or permanently disabled, will be forced to take a 21.6 per cent cut in their monthly cheques.

Surely the province's deficit can't come solely from this sector of society.

I agree that changes are necessary to improve the existing system and prevent fraud, but I don't feel that across-the-board cuts of this size are the answer.

What about the single parents who are trying to make a better life for themselves and their children through post-secondary education?

Or the ones who just can't make ends meet on the wages of a part-time, minimum wage job?

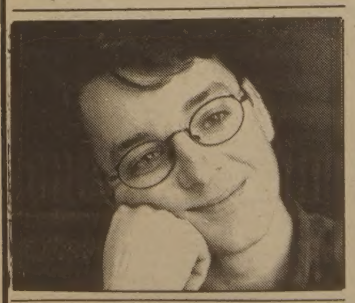
Tuition costs are on the rise and jobs are scarce for the few who manage to make it through. More and more employers are hiring part-time help to save on the cost of benefits they must pay out.

In their hurry to erase the memory of the former NDP government, the Conservatives have scrapped the JobsOntario retraining program. Few employers will hire unskilled, undereducated workers.

Where does this leave the children of poor families? They are the ones who will pay in the end. Those who abuse the system and sit around drinking beer as Harris has suggested, will continue to do so. The children will do without, not the adults.

I have one question to ask Mike Harris about his "common sense revolution." People on social assistance in Ontario are taking a cut of almost one quarter of their family income. Are you willing to do the same?

Season tickets for Knights' hockey on sale now



Dean Michel

'Tis the season to turn off the barbecue and tune in to those great student culinary delights known across campus land as Cheap Eats.

Kraft Dinner tops the list (try it with salsa instead of ketchup) followed closely by the gender-exclusive **Mr. Noodle** (avoid shrimp flavor, it assaults the olfactory senses in a nasty way).

A few observations and random thoughts:

* Overheard at an information desk outside Niagara College's Welland Campus Learning Resource Centre: "Where can I get a student handbook? Is it free?" Answers to follow...

* Of all the dirty tricks foisted upon frosh over the years: someone has been trying to sell season's tickets to Niagara College Knight-hockey games.

* Question: Who did Student Administrative Council (SAC) pay for the rights to the Orientation '95 "Start me up" slogan? **Bill Gates** or **Mick Jagger**?

* Despite rumors to the contrary, **Dick Assman** has not enrolled as a mature student at Niagara College.

* Seems like the bookstore has eliminated the perpetual line-up outside its doors last September. This year the lineup grows inside the bookstore.

* Is anyone still following the **O.J.** circus? If so, why?

* **Scott Verhoeven**, SAC's vice-president social affairs, says in his welcoming address (see Page 4 in the Student Handbook): "It's my belief that students take part in both academic and social activities." Well, let's see, unless I never attend a class, open a book, take notes, do avoid any and all human contact with teachers, administrators and peers, I think I'll fulfill your belief Scott. Thanks for the insight.

* Answers that follow:

1) If you don't yet have a copy of the Student Handbook, go to the SAC office in After Hours.

2) No you won't have to use out-of-pocket cash for the handbook. SAC has kindly deducted $2 from your activity fees. For a detailed breakdown of your $131.30 Student Activity Fee, see Page 7 of your handbook.

Student residence plans remain optimistic

By MILAN DURCO
Staff Writer

A Niagara College official remains optimistic the college will someday have a residence for its students.

A $4.5-million, 100-bed residence planned for Niagara College's Welland campus was to open this September, but as yet no construction has begun.

In a Nov. 18, 1994, edition of the Niagara News, Hans van der Slagt, the college's vice-president of administration, said the college was working with a developer to build and manage a residence on campus.

A contract with Armenti Bros. Construction and Russell Associates Inc. was signed Oct. 28, 1994 to construct and design the residence. However, because of a lack of funding, the developer's contract expired, said van der Slagt.

The college has offered other developers incentives for the project and three new developers have come forward, but their names are not being disclosed until further negotiations are completed.

Van der Slagt said depending on the developer, rent will be comparable with normal rent rates. Students could expect to pay between $300 and $400 a month.

A meal plan may be available to students if the chosen developer decides on building a cafeteria in the residence.

"If not, then the current caterer (Versa Foods) at the college may be used," said van der Slagt.

The residence is expected to house about 200 students on a first-come, first-serve basis, said van der Slagt, adding "having a residence on campus will make the college more attractive to students and keep our enrolment up."

The building was to be located on the north east corner of college property, near the First Avenue entrance.

After Hours to host Rainbow Butt Monkeys

By DAVE JOHNSTONE
Staff Writer

Free pool, Comedy Night and, of course, chicken wings. What more could a student ask for?

After Hours manager Dave Rapelje has been busy this summer lining up some of Canada's best new entertainment acts.

In preparation for their appearance at the Much Music Video Awards, Rainbow Butt Monkeys will appear Sept. 28.

Every Wednesday night is comedy night, featuring some of the best comedians in Canada. Rapelje worked in conjunction with Evan Aldman, Yuk Yuk's comedy agent in Toronto, to bring comedians to Niagara College's Welland campus facility.

Ronnie Edwards and Rick Currie will be featured Sept. 27. There will be no cover charge and pool is free.

"The last few nights have been packed," says Rapelje. He advises people to show up early for the "best seats in the house." Doors open at 8 p.m. The show starts at 9 p.m.

The Student Administrative Council will be sponsoring a trip to the Whiskey Saigon Club in Toronto Sept. 29. The price will pay for the bus and cover charge. Tickets are available at the the Student Centre. The cost is $10.

October promises to be just as exciting. Glueleg will be swinging the alternative crowd on Oct. 5 and acoustic guitarist Mike Fagen will perform Oct. 12.

November has the 1970s retro-funk of Jack Soul on Nov. 23 and more acoustic music with Gary McGill on Nov. 30.

CE offers lifelong learning

By STEPHANIE TURTON
Staff Writer

Niagara College invites you to become a part of its school of lifelong learning.

The college offers a choice of about 500 Continuing Education courses.

With its new full telephone registration system anyone with an existing Niagara College student identification number and a touch tone phone can call Niagara's Interactive Call Connection (NICC) and register for a Continuing Education course.

It can also be used to verify your registration in a particular course, to check if you are on a waiting list or to change your *personal identification number.*

NICC can be accessed weekdays from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on most weekends.

Classes started Monday, Sept. 18. Contact Continuing Education at ext. 7510 for more information.

College des Grands Lacs goes interactive

By JENNIFER BACON
Staff Writer

The on-line video-based College des Grands Lacs in Welland is breaking down educational barriers.

The new provincial French-Language college has five satellite campuses in Toronto, Penetang, Hamilton and Windsor. It is temporarily at Ecole secondaire Confederation on Tanguay Street.

There are two interactive video screens on the campus. The tele writer is a screen designed to send and receive messages from other satellites while the video conference has the capacity to record images and voice responses from all locations.

"It puts the students in charge of their learning," says Doris Evans, co-ordinator of the Nursing and Early Childhood Education programs at Niagara College.

Evans says the students are encouraged to help each other in an environment where teachers are seen as facilitators rather than educators.

The system enables one teacher to service the five communities.

Lola Cormier, 18, of Welland, one of eight students at the Welland satellite campus, says aside from the occasional technical difficulties, she likes the system because smaller classes make learning easier.

The college opened its doors Sept. 6.

New student council proposed for Native students

By LYN DUNLAP
Staff Writer

The Native Education Department at the Welland campus is a busy place these days.

Besides planning for a new course in January, the Native Education Department is discussing the possible implementation of a Native Student Council.

The new course, entitled Spirit of the Two Row Wampum, is set to begin in January.

Available as a general elective and offered through Continuing Education, the course is designed for those interested in native culture and heritage. It will also examine the diversities between society and the native community.

The course was prepared by Wendy Johnson-Martin, Niagara College's aboriginal education access manager.

"There's so much happening within the native community that people need to get an understanding of why that is, and offering this program will do that," she says.

"You hear the things that are happening at Ipperwash, Ont., in British Columbia, at Six Nations and all over the place, and the general community doesn't understand why they (natives) take such a strong stand."

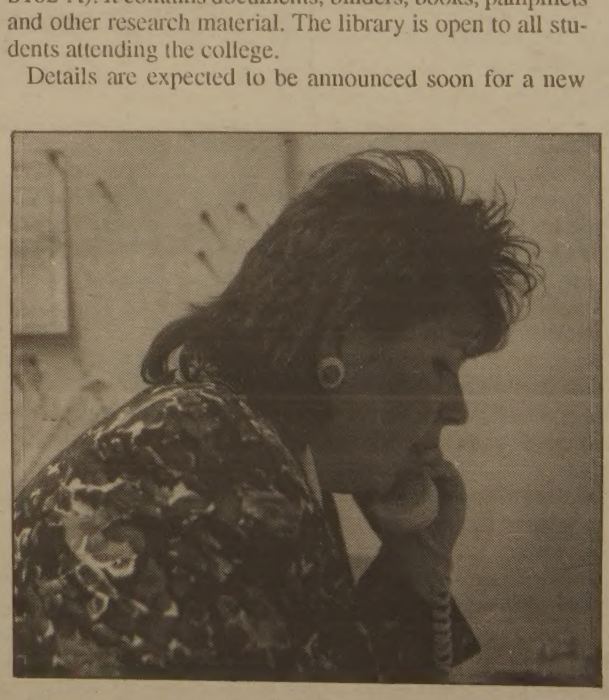
Johnson-Martin is also trying to implement a Native Student Council with the hopes of "better and more communication with the students themselves. I don't want to sit here and make decisions for the students, that's not my role."

Students are not required to register with the Native Education Access Office. However, those supporting the student council proposal should register their support.

"Registering with the office is the only way I would be able to identify who the students are and be able to communicate with them better," she says. "This is important because of the scholarships, job information and other resource materials available to them."

There is a resource library in the Aboriginal Office (Room S102-A). It contains documents, binders, books, pamphlets and other research material. The library is open to all students attending the college.

Details are expected to be announced soon for a new Niagara College Aboriginal Scholarship. The award will be given to a second-year native student who has "demonstrated excellence in academics and contributed to the aboriginal community."



WENDY JOHNSON-MARTIN
Photo by Lyn Dunlap

The scholarship was developed after the college received The Friendship Belt from the aboriginal community, and in return the college funded the scholarship.

Meanwhile, the CIBC is the first major back to contribute $20,000 for a new "recruitment package." The package will operate for a six-month term and include a development officer who will visit the native community and examine some of the barriers associated with getting natives into post-secondary institutions.

This is expected to help with closing the gap on problems arising from trying to further one's education, says Johnson-Martin.

A proposal was also submitted to the Royal Bank concerning a proposed Bridge Program. The program is expected to be incorporated into the college's Business Administration program. It will register 10 students at a time. They will do a preparatory period called the bridge to see what areas they need help in. This help could include career counselling, identifying educational goals, upgrading or "whatever they need" to be able to get into the full-time program, says Johnson-Martin.

"We're probably looking at people who wouldn't necessarily get into the system otherwise," she says. "It ties into the Business Administration program because once in the bridge, they'll flow right into that specific program.

"It is called the native bridge because it brings them right from their community to the post-secondary level, giving them a chance which may not have been given otherwise," says Johnson-Martin.

SAC FACTS

New SAC president takes the high road

By WILL WEBSTER
Staff Writer

If Bren Biggs has her way, this year's version of the Student Administrative Council (SAC) will be remembered for two things — a positive approach and consistency.

Focusing on what is important, she says, is the key.

"Remembering why I am here and remembering why all the other council members and students are here — and that is to get an education. . . If you forget why you are here, that's when you run into problems. If you let other things get you tied up and you get carried away, you're going to end up short-changing yourself or others along the way."

Biggs, 24, who holds a BA in political science from the University of Western Ontario in London, is in her second year of Recreational Leadership studies at Niagara. The Grimsby native initially went to Western with thoughts of attending law school.

Upon completion of her BA, she returned for some additional courses in bio-ethics and aging in Canada. It was then she discovered that her "true" interest was in working with seniors. She found the Recreational Leadership program at Niagara offered the most direct route toward her new goals.

Biggs, who lists swimming, rollerblading, skating and skiing as her favored pastimes, came to Niagara in September 1994 and joined SAC midway through last year.

"I obviously have an interest in politics," said Biggs, when asked why she got involved with SAC. "I enjoyed my experiences for the most-part last year, being able to be involved. I hope I have things that I can offer the students and I enjoy working for and with people."

Encouraging the "positive" is her priority as president.

Bren Biggs says she is looking for consistency and positivity.

Photo by Will Webster

"When I was walking around during student appreciation day last year. . . everyone was in such high spirits," said Biggs. "Seeing that reminded me of why I got involved in the first place. Knowing that spirit and energy is out there, if we can, this year, tap into that, and play on it. . . we can do anything and a lot of positive things can come out of it.

"It's not so much what the student council itself can accomplish, it's what the student council can enable the community within Niagara College to accomplish — so that each and every person here can realize the potential they have in the things they can achieve."

Being responsible for a $500,000 business and looking after the interests of a large number of people is the toughest aspect of being on SAC, said Biggs.

"You know the group of people you have in mind and you know what you want to do and you have good intentions, but sometimes it's not knowing whether or not what you're doing is going to be particularly beneficial because everything does have some side effects or consequences to it."

Asked what qualities she would like to see in a new college president, Biggs emphasized the importance of being able to work with the diverse community at the college.

"I would like to see a president that can carry Niagara through the difficult times that we are going have with cuts from the provincial government, that can bring together the community, which means being able to work effectively with the faculty, the support staff and the students and adminstration. A president that cannot work with all those groups is not the president that we want here for the students."

SAC Bits

By WILL WEBSTER
Staff Writer

• The Student Administrative Council rejected selling Nevada tickets at After Hours. Two years ago SAC agreed to sell the tickets but the deal fell through. This time, when approached by the Nevada people, the idea was turned down flat.

SAC President Bren Biggs said; "When we were approached this year for Nevada tickets there were a few issues that came up that were a concern, selling gambling tickets to students where we are selling alcohol."

Biggs also pointed to a lack of available human resources to handle retailing the tickets. "We don't mind helping out fundraising but they wanted us to do it, collect the money for them, and hand the money over."

• Over the summer City of St. Catharines municipal clerk Tom Derrick was brought in by SAC to help streamline operating procedures, particularly when it comes to in-camera policy.

As a result, SAC is in the process of adopting Bourniot's Rules of Order, a system more closely aligned with Canadian parliamentary standards. Previously SAC operated by Robert's Rules of Order, which is the U.S. standard.

Copies of Bourniot's Rules may be found in the reference section of your local library.

• The Welland campus SAC building will be paid for by March 1997. The original mortgage was valued at about $750,000. As of March 31, 1995, SAC's year-end, the outstanding balance was $355,000 according to officials in the college accounting department.

• Every member of SAC will receive an additional one week honorarium to cover time put in during August. The initial motion to pay the executive extra dollars was made to cover lost wages for those who had to leave their jobs to attend SAC business. However, when the motion was passed, the extra money was granted whether the person had a job or not.

SAC members receive $70 a week and the president receives $85.

• Weekly SAC meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the SAC boardroom. This year extra seating will be available. SAC members are encouraging interested students to attend the meetings.

• SAC has invited the Toronto Star, the Welland Tribune and the Standard to put newspaper boxes on campus. So far, the Tribune and the Star have committed to the idea. Vice-President Athletics Lyndon Johnson requested the Toronto Sun also be invited to take part, his reason, "if I don't get my page 3 I'm like . . ." The boxes will be located in and around the SAC building.

• Third-year student Andrew Stuart is the student SAC representative for the Broadcasting, Radio, Film and Television program. He is also the news director for Niagara College Radio, CRNC. As news director his job is to cover SAC meetings for the station. At the Sept. 19 SAC meeting he was offering comment and opinion as a student representative and asking questions as a reporter.

Asked if he thought this might constitute a conflict of interest Stuart said, "No, because I don't put any motions on the table and I'm just here to put my input in once in a while when I feel it is necessary."

• Shinerama has earned "a little better than double last year" according to Vice-President Internal Mike Matkowski. The annual cleaning fest has earned over $2700 with two weeks to go. • SAC will host a Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic on Oct. 11. Their goal is to have 300 donors take part. The day-long event will take place in the main gym at the Welland Campus. Food and refreshment will be provided to donors.

• College Liaison and SAC representative Lou Dimattio told SAC, in the Sept. 19 meeting, that she thinks Student Centre Board of Directors meetings are "closed."

• An estimated 80 students under the age of majority have approached SAC and requested admission to events at After Hours. SAC has agreed to have the Student Centre Management Committee investigate legalities to make it possible for under-age people to attend Comedy Night.

SAC boosts LRC by $20,000

By PAULINE POSTILL
Staff Writer

New lighting and donated funds for book purchases have put a new face on Niagara College's Learning Resource Centres and campuses.

"Many students have commented on the new lighting in here, and they are pleased with it," said Trish Labonte, head librarian at the Welland campus Learning Resource Centre (LRC).

The Welland LRC was the first building on campus to receive the new energy-efficient lights. The lighting is part of a total $1.5-million project affecting all areas of all campuses. It is spearheaded by Mal Woodhouse, director of physical resources and George Stong, supervisor of physical resources.

The Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls was the first campus to have the relamping installed last year.

The lighting in the Welland LRC was replaced this summer and the Simcoe and Lundy buildings are being worked on now.

"It will take a year before this process is complete," said Woodhouse. "With the exception of the Horticultural Centre in St. Catharines, all of our campuses will have the lighting installed eventually. We will try to improve upon certain areas that are geared to the learners, the possibility of painted corridors and classrooms."

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) has donated $20,000 to the libraries. The monies are being divided proportionately among the five campuses based on student enrolment.

About 70 per cent of the book orders have been placed "and in the next six to eight weeks they should start appearing on the shelves," said Labonte.

Donation labels will be placed in the books and they will read: **Purchased by students for students.**

"It will be obvious where the money has been spent," said Labonte. "Students will also see a change in the collections with the $20,000 donation.

"Our direction was to use the grant for circulating material and for new books to be available for loan.

"SAC has certainly shown its commitment to the student body with this donation."

Raising funds for the United Way of Niagara

College hopes to raise $20,000

By RON WOLF
Staff Writer

The United Way of South Niagara needs your help.

The United Way's goal for this year is "$765,000, $20,000 more than what we raised in last year's campaign," said Gary W. Clement, executive director for the United Way of South Niagara. "It's an increase of three per cent."

Last year's goal was $775,000. However, the drive came up short by $30,000.

Niagara College is doing what it can to help the United Way drive.

The college is hoping to raise $20,000 this year.

Five hundred posters are being sold with the proceeds going to Hang On With United Way Youth.

Mike Matkowski, vice-president external affairs for the Student Administrative Council (SAC) at Niagara College, says the posters sell for $1 each.

The sale will continue "while supplies last," said Matkowski, on Tuesdays and Thursdays in front of the library during SAC hours.

Some of Canada's leading corporations such as Evian, Polo-Ralph Lauren, Via Rail, and the Milk Marketing Board have supplied Seiger Marketing (the presenter of Hanging On With United Way Youth) with the large posters.

Seiger Marketing said in a press release, the posters are an "attractive and artistic way to brighten up any residence room."

The United Way of South Niagara will rely this year on "just over 2,000 community volunteers," said Sharon Svob, campaign and marketing director for the organization.

This year the United Way of South Niagara has allocated $719,696 to 24 agencies.

Some of the agencies include Red Cross in Welland, Niagara Centre for Independent Living, Big Sisters Association, Welland Area Family YMCA, Meals-on-Wheels in Port Colborne, St. John Ambulance in Welland, Credit Counselling of Regional Niagara, and Niagara Regional Youth Home (Workshop Program).

A number of fundraising events have been organized. They include a Jail and Bail in Welland and Port Colborne on Oct. 13, a trivia and pub night at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 4 on Oct. 14 and a car draw for a GEO Metro to be drawn on Oct. 20.

A Ladies Night Out (fashion show, silent auction and casino night) in Pelham is scheduled for Nov. 23.

The United Way of South Niagara has been operating for 30 years.

Helping those with special needs

By LEAH LAPRISE
Staff Writer

The special needs office at Niagara College in Welland has been helping students with special needs for at least seven years, says Gilles Prescott, special needs co-ordinator.

The office, in the Merritt building, Room 101, serves about 310 students with a variety of special needs, such as learning disabilities, mobility impairments, hearing problems, visual and physical impairments, chronic health problems and social and emotional conditions.

"We want to make sure we offer all students an equal opportunity to be successful," says Prescott. "We try as hard as we can to change things to accommodate everyone."

Students are happy with the services they receive, he says.

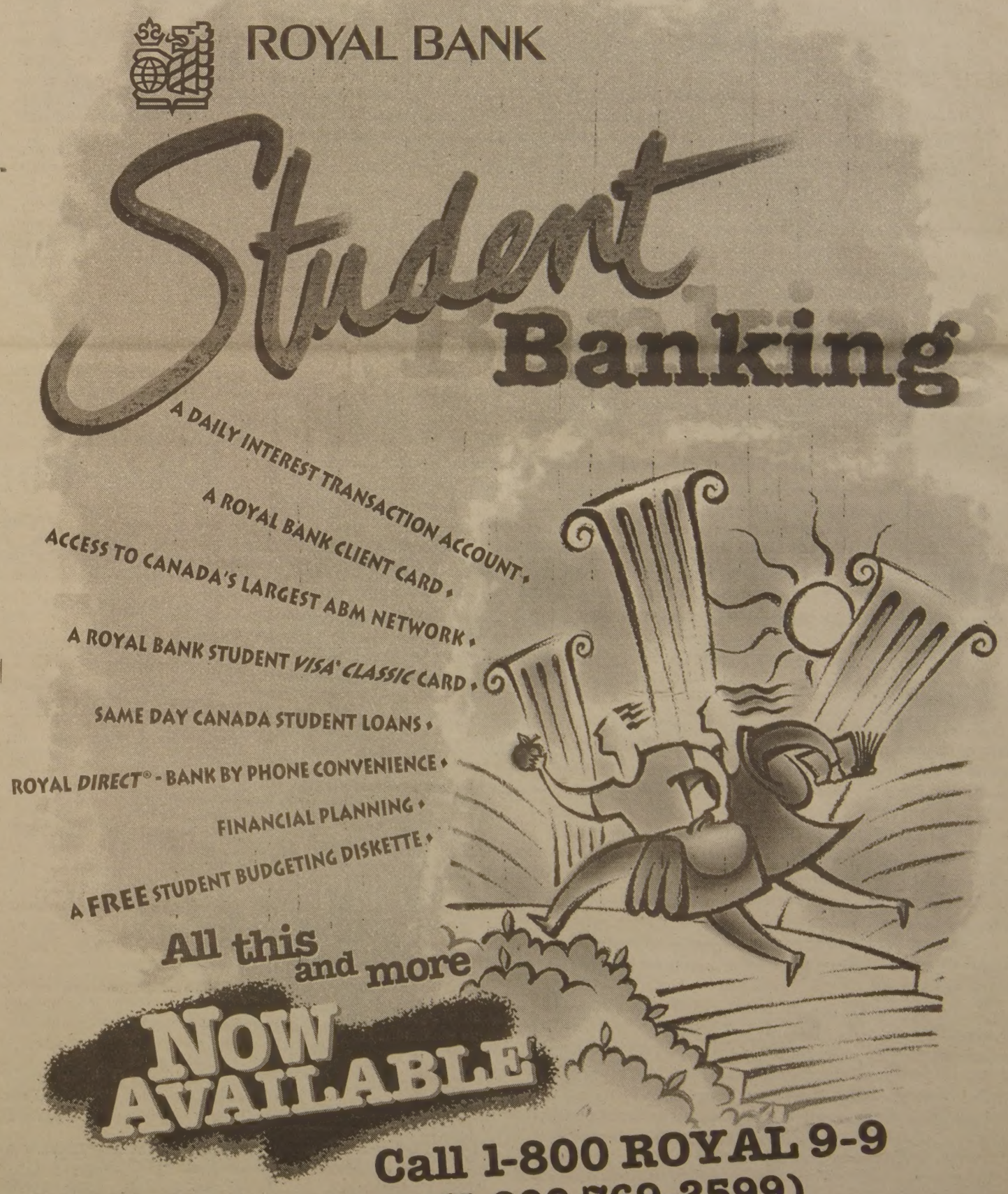
Some of the services available include notetakers, peer tutors, and classroom assistants. The students also have access to tape recorders, spell checkers and computers to help them when doing assignments.

'We want to make sure we offer all students an equal opportunity to be successful,' says Prescott.

Prescott says the college hasn't always had a special needs office, but seven or eight years ago students with handicaps began demanding help.

The provincial government then implemented special needs offices in colleges to work with the Human Rights Code to help people with disabilities, "but not to make them pass," he says.

The 1995/96 school year will include the same routine and services as last year, as well as some renovations around the college to improve wheelchair accessibility, says Prescott.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LAW AND POLICE

Helmet law may be tough to enforce

By JOE GALLAGHER
Staff Writer

Cyclists beware! Beginning in October, an estimated two million cyclists across Ontario will be required to wear a helmet.

Anyone failing to do so could face a penalty of $90, plus a victim's surcharge of $15, under the Highway Traffic Act.

The helmet law, Bill 124, was first introduced in 1991 by Conservative MPP Diane Cunningham. Cunningham's son had suffered head injuries in a car accident; the legislation passed in 1993 with the approval of all three parties.

Not everyone is supportive of the new helmet law. In a recent poll done by the Ministry of Transportation, 16 per cent of people polled will not likely abide by the law despite facing a $105 fine.

Rob Ford, 24, a University of Western Ontario student, says, "I don't think that I will wear a helmet because I don't believe police will be strict on enforcing the law."

Rick Rikkerink, owner of Bike Fit, says the law will be hard to enforce, especially with children. He says people should be educated about safety, however, the choice to wear a helmet should be left to the individual.

Greg Thornton, owner of Thornton Cycle, says he thinks the law is a good idea for people who commute, however, it's a bad idea for people just going to the store.

Despite some public displeasure over the helmet law, Sgt. Bob Cuipa, public affairs officer for the Niagara Regional Police Service, said, "Units will be taking a zero tolerance approach when enforcing the helmet law. However, that does not limit the discretion of individual officers."

Crime Stoppers investigation continues

This week **Crime Stoppers** is changing its format slightly as it assists Thunder Bay Crime Stoppers in their search for a missing person.

For the past 10 years, police from Thunder Bay and other agencies across Canada have investigated sightings of persons suspect believed to be Carroll Lou Viau.

At the time she went missing, Viau was being treated at the Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital for a nervous breakdown.

The evening she disappeared (Sept. 20, 1985), she was seen walking away from the hospital by herself. She had no money or identification. At the time of her disappearance, Viau was 41 years old.

She is described as a white female, 5'4" tall, 165 lbs., with brown hair, green eyes, medium complexion and a tattoo on her left arm just above the wrist.

At times, Viau was known to use the aliases Adams, Hardy or Rogalski.

If you have information regarding Viau, or any crime, call **Crime Stoppers** at **1-800-263-8477**, that's **1-800-AND-TIPS** to be eligible for a cash award up to $1,000. In all cases, you will not have to reveal your identity.

The Niagara Regional Police in co-operation with Crime Stoppers Niagara Inc. writes this column to help combat crime. A citizen board administers the local program. Reward money is raised through tax-deductible donations. Cheques may be sent to Crime Stoppers of Niagara Inc., P.O. Box 1086, St. Catharines, Ont. L2R 7A3.

Crime Stoppers need students

By PATTY MALLAIS
Staff Writer

Niagara College Crime Stoppers is the first campus-based program in Ontario. However, the program needs your help to be a success.

Students are invited to get involved in one of the fund-raising events or leave an anonymous tip regarding crimes committed at Niagara College.

Students can also make an impact by offering insight regarding safety concerns.

Even the smallest incident will have an affect on your environment. Whether it be safety or rising costs of college services by having to repair or replace stolen or damaged property. If you have any information regarding any incident at the college, call Niagara Crime Stoppers at 1-800-263-8477. Be a part of your college community by getting involved.

In an effort to raise awareness about this program, Niagara Crime Stoppers will be selling 50/50 tickets to be drawn every other week.

Unclaimed prize amounts and tickets will be carried over to the next draw. Tickets can be purchased in M8 from people wearing Crime Stoppers T-shirts. The winning ticket number for the draw on Friday Sept. 15 was 751165. Please watch this column for further information on dates and times for Crime Stoppers' meetings.

NRP and LASA students partners in crime prevention

Students will be spending more time off campus getting hands-on experience

By PATTY MALLAIS
Staff Writer

The students of the Law and Security Administration program (LASA) are becoming increasingly visible in the community. Just look around, they're everywhere.

From a housing project, the Grape and Wine Festival in St. Catharines, to the Niagara Food Festival and other events, Niagara College students will be there.

About 20 second-year LASA students have created a partnership with the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRP) to do security patrols at a St. Catharines housing project. The students will work jointly with the NRP to maintain a safe environment. This is a new experience for both parties.

This year is a little different, says Heather Hodgson, LASA program co-ordinator, adding students will be spending more time off campus getting hands-on experience.

The main changes will take place in the principles of security patrols course. The students will have opportunities to provide security at area events and examine security around the college. Students will be required to submit a full long-term security proposal to the NRP and the Niagara Housing Authority.

The other course that will experience changes this year is basic security procedures. Students will take part in a mock investigation where they will follow the process of a mock trial. Others on campus will assist in this exercise by acting as witnesses, victims and culprits.

Students are also required to clock in 120 hours of Campus Watch as their mandatory work experience, as well as spending two weeks at the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, Ont. There, the students will witness and participate in training procedures used to train law enforcement officers.

CD sale raises $375 towards police scanner

By JEFF MACKAY
Staff Writer

Niagara College students will be scanning the police band this year.

The Radio section of the Broadcasting, Radio, Television, Film program held a CD sale to raise money to buy a police scanner.

The scanner will be used to monitor police, fire and ambulance channels.

"The students will be able to pick up news much faster and report it as it happens," said Chris Ivanich, 23, Campus Radio Niagara College (CRNC) program director.

The students using the new scanner are from the radio program, CRNC, and those involved with the Inside Niagara television show.

The CD sale was held Sept. 18 in the Tecumseh Centre across from the library.

Ivanich said more than $375 was raised by selling about 75 CDs.

The discs sold were ones sent to the college by record companies and independent bands that were duplicates or did not fit the radio programs of CRNC.

"I wish they had a better selection," said Bill Plaschka, 20, of Brockville, Ont., a Mechanical Engineering Technology program student, who attended the sale. "They only had alternative music."

CRNC is planning to have another sale to get rid of unwanted CDs in the near future.

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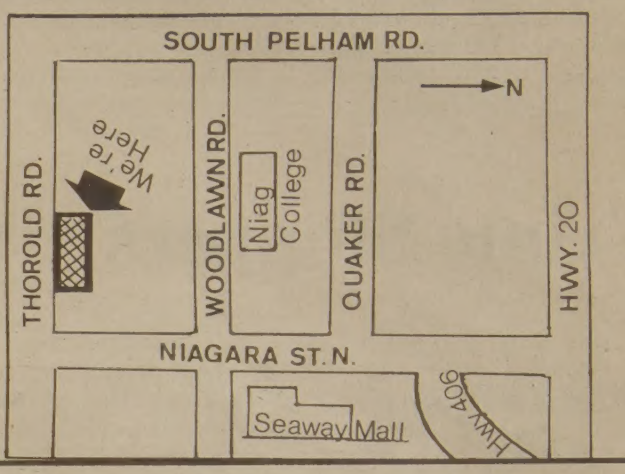

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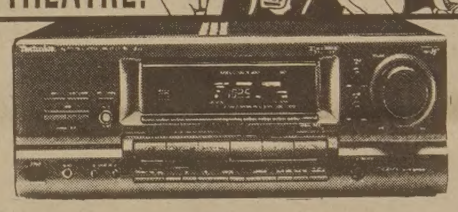

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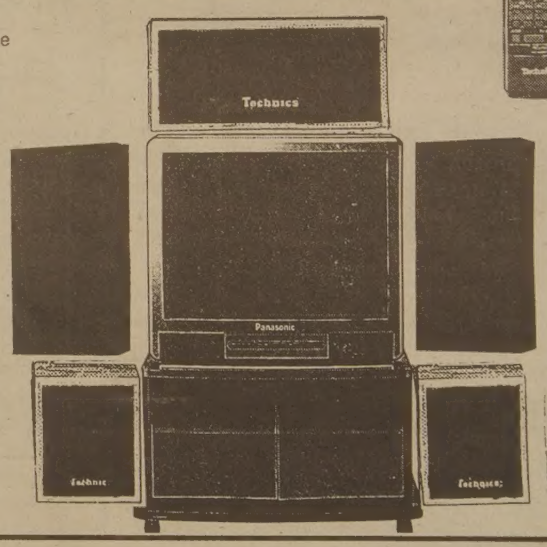

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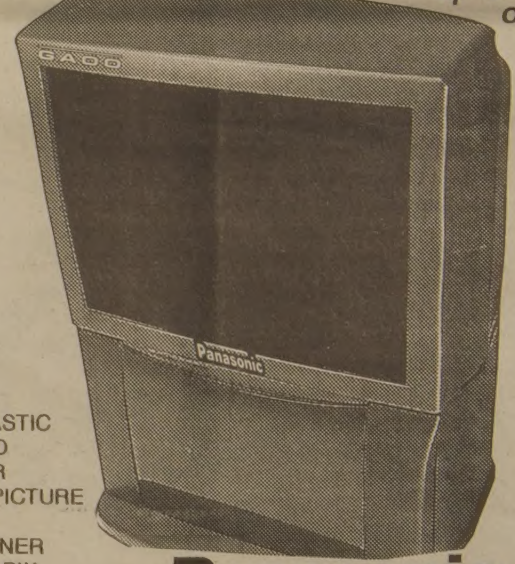

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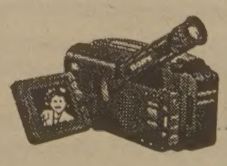

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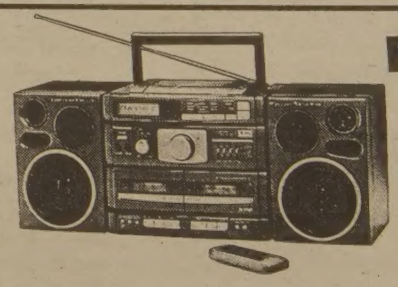

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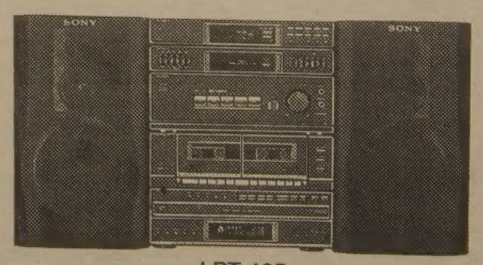

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Canada and U.S. join forces in education

College partnership crosses international borders

By RONALD DUGUAY
Staff Writer

Niagara College is extending its hands across the border.

An articulation agreement was signed with Florence-Darlington Technical School of South Carolina Sept. 15.

Niagara College President John Saso and the U.S. college's President Charles W. Gould met here to sign the agreement.

The colleges will collaborate to establish opportunities for joint educational sharing, development, program articulation and transfer and interchange involving faculty and students.

"Not only do our students benefit from this agreement, but we double our potential as institutions of learning by being able to share ideas and strategies," said Saso.

"We are impressed with the creative, strategic planning," Gould said of Niagara College. "We enjoy your management style. You have a very informal, free-thinking style of culture."

The two countries seek to promote the value of and further encourage interchange between their regional economic, social and cultural institutions.

Students interested in the interchange must complete two semesters at their respective school. They must attain a quality point average of 2.0 to attend the reciprocating school.

'Here we don't just survive. Our mandate is to thrive on change,' says Saso

Upon completion of studies, students would receive a diploma at Niagara College or an associate degree at Florence-Darlington.

One advantage of the partnership is that students pay their regular tuition fees at their home school but attend the other.

"This would be a way for students to expand their North American experience to include Canada and the U.S.," said a press release.

"Our primary mission is technological education," said Gould.

Saso said he was impressed with the educational pool they have at the U.S. school. "Here we don't just survive. Our mandate is to thrive on change."

With the changes made in the educational system, Saso said enrolment to the college should exceed 5,000 full-time students by January.

Programs included in the agreement are Early Childhood Education, General Arts and Sciences, Health Records, Business, Medical Transcriptionist, Office Administration, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Computer Engineering Technology, Electronics and Manufacturing.

Gould said he was pleased and impressed with the reception he and his colleagues received. "We've been made to feel very much at home."

"We have a warm place in our hearts for our American brothers and sisters," said Saso.

Niagara College President John Saso (left) and Charles W. Gould, U.S. college president, sign the articulation agreement.
Photo by Ron Duguay

Run has special meaning

By LEE-ANN AYRES
Staff Writer

Although many braved the rainy weather for last Sunday's annual Terry Fox Run in Port Colborne, the run held special meaning for two young members of Terry's Team.

Andrew Di Lorenzo, 7, and Lindsay Schoen, 14, both of Port Colborne, were asked to be on Terry's Team because they were once diagnosed with cancer.

Andrew was diagnosed on Aug. 6, 1992 with Wilm's Tumor. "I had cancer and they asked me to come and talk about the Terry Fox Run," says Andrew.

The darked-haired boy with grape juice stains around his mouth has been involved in three prior races.

Andrew underwent a year and a half of chemotherapy and has been off treatment since 1994.

Andrew is in Grade 2 at St. John Bosco. "He's living life just like a 7-year-old," says Andrew's father, Danny.

Andrew has his yellow belt in karate and enjoys playing minor hockey and watching television. His favorite show is Mighty Morphin Power Rangers.

Lindsay, a Grade 10 student at Port Colborne High School, was diagnosed at six with non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. A type of cancer for which a cure was found through money raised by the Terry Fox Foundation.

The enthusiastic teen has been involved in the Terry Fox Run for seven years.

Along with the run's co-ordinator, Mike Charron, the duo go to local elementary schools and encourage students to get involved in the run. "I'm glad to see a lot of people turn out. It means a lot to me."

But Lindsay's involvement doesn't end there. Each August, Lindsay organizes and runs a carnival for Help A Child Smile. "This year we raised $3,500.77," said Lindsay.

Last year, the 10-kilometre Terry Fox run raised $3.8 million in Ontario. The run included 270,000 paticipants, 650 of them from Port Colborne.

Charron co-ordinates the Thorold and Port Colborne chapters of the run. He has been involved in the Terry Fox Run for 10 years. He helped while vice-principal at Westbrook Secondary School in Welland. He became co-ordinator when he was transferred to Port High and still co-ordinates in Port Colborne as well as Thorold. "I've been involved for the past 10 years and became very active in the past six."

While wearing his bright green bicycle helmet, Andrew thanked the crowd for coming.

"Although he hasn't finished it yet, each year he goes a little bit further," says his father.

College to offer three new programs

By TERESA ARMSTRONG
Staff Writer

Niagara College is expanding students' horizons by offering three new programs.

A proposal to offer Business Leadership, Massage Therapy and Microelectronics Engineering programs was approved by the college's Board of Governors on Sept. 14.

The programs could be implemented as early as January if the Minister of Education and Training approves, said David Schleich, Niagara's vice-president academic.

The Business Leadership Certificate/Diploma program has been successfully delivered to General Motors of Canada Ltd. employees to prepare the front-line managers for the changing needs of 21st century business leadership, according to a course outline pamphlet.

The two-year program provides classroom experience and on-the-job training. Participants should be employed in a leadership role or be training for such a position.

Also approved is the Massage Therapy Post-Diploma program (Registered Massage Therapist). About 40 inquiries have been made for the two-year post-graduate program, said Schleich.

The program will include field placement and will generate small business opportunities.

Massage therapy is covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan.

The Board also approved a Techniques in Microelectronics Manufacturing program. This one-year certificate program will expand on the Electronics Engineering Technology programs.

Enrolment increasing

By MARK FERENCE
Staff Writer

Niagara College's student enrolment is expected to be its highest ever.

As of Sept. 12, 4,750 students had registered in 48 full-time programs at the college.

The actual number is down 12 from last September, but students had this week to register.

"The real key this year is first year enrolment is up by 67 students," said Al Vaughan, college registrar.

"If you have the people entering first year you know they'll be around in second year and a trend begins to form," he said.

"Until the 10th day of classes we don't really know what we are dealing with, but it looks optimistic this year," he said.

Vaughan said the school is attracting more students for a number of reasons, one being that the school is becoming "much more of a year round college."

Students have more chances to enrol with many January-Start programs. Niagara College is offering 30 January-Start programs this year, compared to 20 programs last January.

Another reason for optimism is the fact the public is gaining more awareness about the value of higher education, said Vaughn.

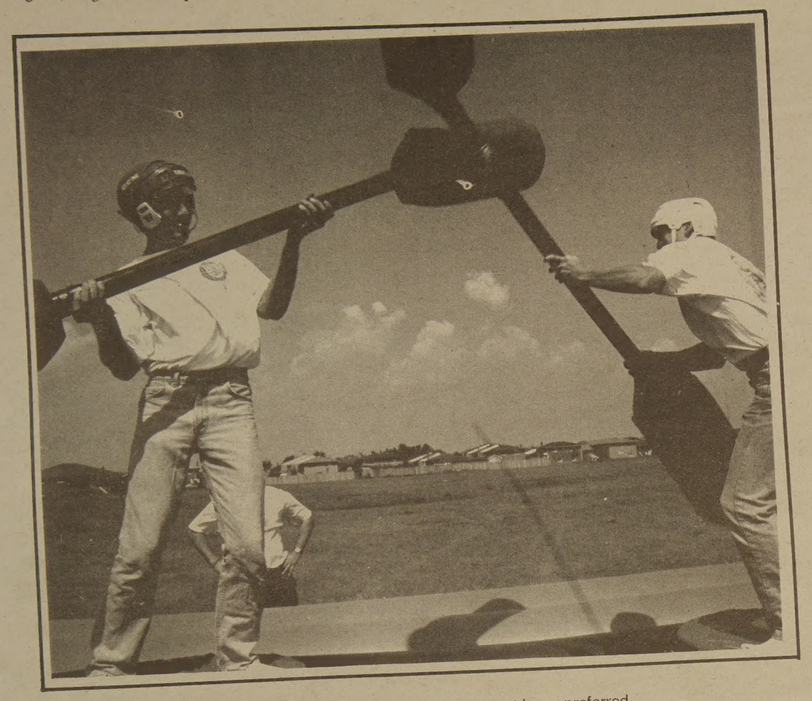
"People are becoming aware that you need to have something more than highschool if you want a good job," he said.

Name change

The Vocational program at Niagara College has a new name — Career and College Opportunities.

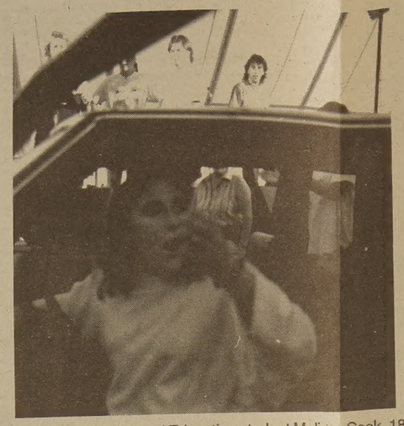
The change was approved at the college's Board of Governors meeting Sept. 14.

Rick Bassett, of St. Catharines, board chair, said the reasoning was the negative connotations high school students put on the word "vocational."



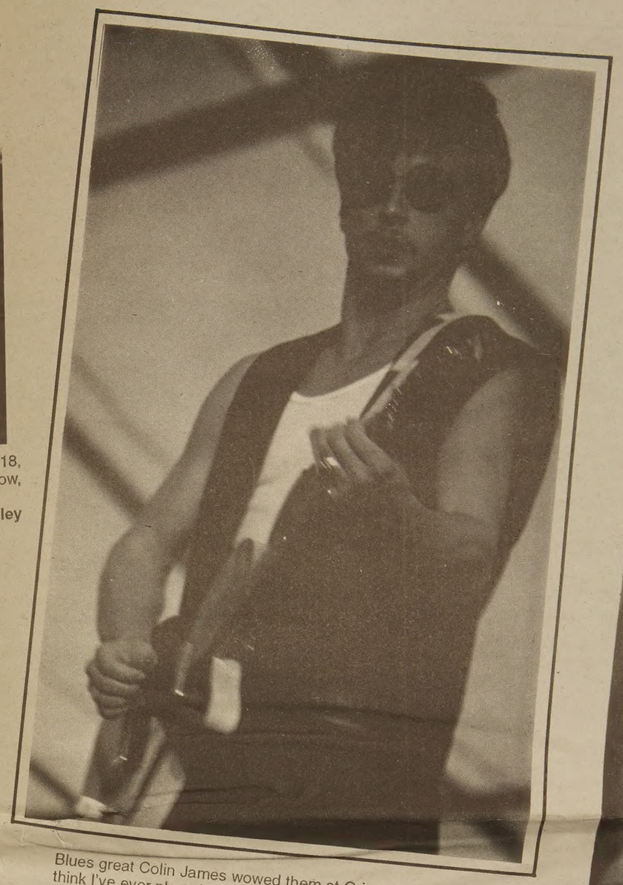
"I heard you're the guy who took the last seat in my preferred elective. Here, take this."

Photo by Will Webster



First-year Early Childhood Education student Melissa Cook, 18, of St. Catharines can't believe she won the 1984 Reliant. Now, all she needs to do is get her license!

Photo by Ron Crowley



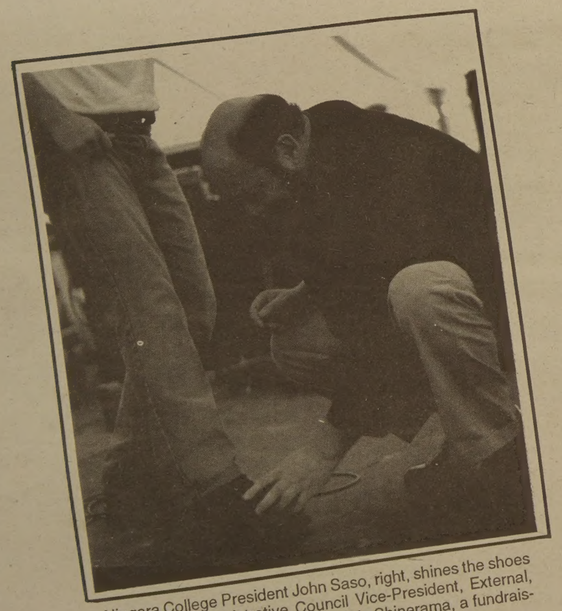
Blues great Colin James wowed them at Orientation. "I don't think I've ever played a gig this early," James told the appreciative crowd.

Photo by Will Webster

START ME UP!!!

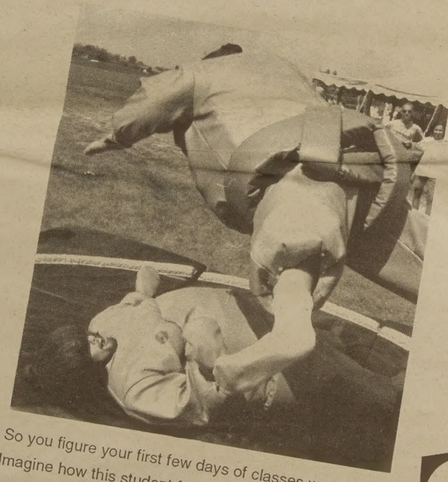
Colin James' saxophone player Johnny Ferraro at a noon-hour concert on the Welland campus.

Photo by Will Webster



Niagara College President John Saso, right, shines the shoes of Student Administrative Council Vice-President, External, Mike Matkowski to kick off this year's Shinerama, a fundraising event for cystic fibrosis. They raised $3,000.

Photo by Debbie Cunningham



So you figure your first few days of classes were tough. Imagine how this student felt after the landing.

Photo by Will Webster

First year students party at Playfair.

Photo by Debbie Cunningham

TEACHER FEATURES

Today's high rating for foreign exchange

By STEPHANIE TURTON
Staff Writer

Oreo cookies, Crisco, Aquafresh for Kids and Blue Light beer were a few things missed by the Emmons' family while they were in New Zealand.

"Every time visitors from Canada came they had to bring these four items or we wouldn't let them in," laughed Lyn Emmons, of Fonthill, a computer teacher at Niagara College who returned home nine months ago from a teaching exchange in Gisborne, New Zealand.

In March 1992 Emmons went to visit a friend who was on a sabbatical leave in New Zealand.

"It was so wonderful," said Emmons. "I wondered how I could get my family there because New Zealand is a very expensive place to visit on a family tour package.

"While I was there I typed out resumes and cover letters and sent one to each of the 25 polytechnics throughout New Zealand introducing the idea for an exchange," she said. "When I returned home four days later, there were two faxes waiting for me. I got 12 replies altogether."

Emmons then discussed the idea with David Schleich, Niagara College's vice-president, academic. She said he was "very receptive" to the idea.

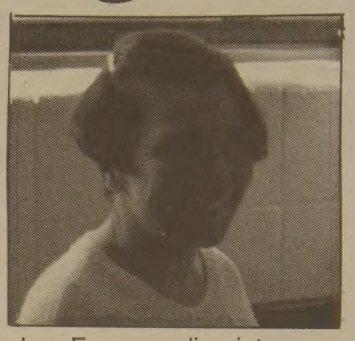
"From the 12 tutors that responded, I replied to three," said Emmons. "In the process of about three months I narrowed it down to Wes Baillie of Gisborne, New Zealand."

Baillie and Emmons never talked on the phone, but corresponded through letters and fax for 18 months.

"We sent each other information on our colleges, course outlines, community, and personal situations in terms of houses and cars," said Emmons.

She said she felt they knew each other before they actually met.

Emmons and her family left for New Zealand on Dec. 28, 1993, but stopped first in Hawaii where they spent five days. There they met Baillie and his wife Barbara, and exchanged car and house keys.



Lyn Emmons digs into one of her book bags that still contains "last year's stuff. There is something about it I just didn't want to unpack."
Photo by Stephanie Turton

"When we met them it was like meeting a pen pal, very exciting," said Emmons. "There was a reassurance that it was going to be a fantastic year. By meeting these people I knew that my house was going to be taken care of, because we felt that they were responsible and enthusiastic."

On Jan. 2, 1994 Emmons, her husband David and their children Tim, 15, and Karen, 11, were met at the Gisborne Airport by Sandra Cash, a tutor.

"She took us to Wes's house and got us settled," said Emmons. "They left us in a beautiful large home right next to the Pacific Ocean."

Since everything was closed for the holiday season, the Emmons' family waited three days before going into town.

"We walked through the city in 40 C temperatures," Emmons said. "At that point it was probably 40 below here."

"When we first got there it was their summer vacation so we travelled. We toured the East Cape, Te Puke, Rotorua, Taupo, Napier and Waitoma," said Emmons. "On these expeditions we saw kiwi fruit farms, lots of thermal activity such as geysers, boiling mud and naturally heated pools, glow worm caves, and the buried village.

"There was lots of magnificent scenery with mountains, rushing streams, and multitudes of sheep and cattle."

"We got back to school the first of February," she said. "The people were overwhelmingly friendly. They invited us into their homes and shared family experiences with us."

"We went on many day trips with our new-found friends.

"They lent us equipment when needed," she said. "Whatever we needed people were willing to lend to us."

Emmons said she and her family hope to make another trip to New Zealand within the next five years, and encourages her "Kiwi friends" to visit Canada.

"Leaving was a very emotional time. We had made deep friendships with people we may never see again," said Emmons. "When we left the Gisborne Airport about 50 people showed up to say farewell."

With E-mail Emmons said she "hears from her friends at least once a week."

The new face of photography

CAROLE TIMM
Photo by Will Webster

By LAURY REID
Staff Writer

The name may sound familiar, but photojournalism has a new look this year.

Carole Timm, 33, has replaced her husband Roy as Niagara College's photography teacher.

She previously taught full time since 1986 in the former Fashion program at the college. This is her first year in the Journalism-Print program.

"I'd like to ensure proper training in both the technical and creative aspects of photojournalism," Timm said of the forthcoming year.

In July 1996 her figurative art will be displayed in a Hamilton gallery. She will be one of four artists in the photography art show.

Timm has received a BA in Visual Arts from Brock University, and is working towards her honors BA in art at McMaster University in Hamilton.

"Studying at Mac has allowed me to experience a diverse and more advanced course of study," she said. "It has increased my technical, creative and presentation skills in visual arts and photography."

Other scholastic credits include a Western Region Orientation to College Certificate, a Fundamentals of Fine Arts Certificate from Sheridan College in Oakville, and a Fashion Merchandising diploma from Niagara College. She also studied at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, N.Y. for a summer.

Prior to working at the college, Timm worked as a merchandiser for Suzy Shier/L.A. Express in the Niagara Region, Toronto, and Edmonton, Alta.

In 1986, Roy started his own photography business when the couple moved to Stoney Creek from Toronto, and Timm has been freelancing ever since.

Timm said there is an advantage to replacing someone she knows. If she has any questions, she has only to go home to ask the advice of her predecessor.

Ancient ruins make much better vacation

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

Exploring ancient ruins on your own and away from tourists can prove more fulfilling than spending your vacation at a resort or on a beach.

Just ask Gene Maltais.

After two days of lying on the beach during his first trip to Cancun, Mexico, Maltais was "bored silly" by his packaged tour.

The politics teacher from Niagara College began investigating alternative activities and decided to go on a $30 U.S. bus tour to the nearby ruins of Chichen Itza and Tulum.

When he arrived, Maltais said he was "absolutely flabbergasted that as a person with three university degrees I'd never been exposed to this high culture of the Americas."

He later discovered that he could have taken a local bus for $1.50 U.S. and stayed as long as he wanted.

Ever since, he has created his own trips to Belize, the Yucatan Peninsula and the island of Cozumel.

Maltais became interested in the culture, buying artifacts and books on his trips, and learning all he could "so the next time I go, I see all of the details tourists don't see."

Over time, Maltais collected enough information to teach a course on Mayan culture. He learned more about their neighbors — the Olmecs, Aztecs, Toltecs, Zapotecs and Mixtecs — and this lead to an educational leave to go to Oaxaca, Mexico, in June.

Maltais went with three goals in mind.

First, he wanted to see the Zapotec ruins at Monte Alban and the Mixtec ruins at Milta.

Second, he wanted to see how the people of the Third World lived.

"In rural areas, the people are at about the same level of technology our homesteaders were in Alberta in 1905," he said.

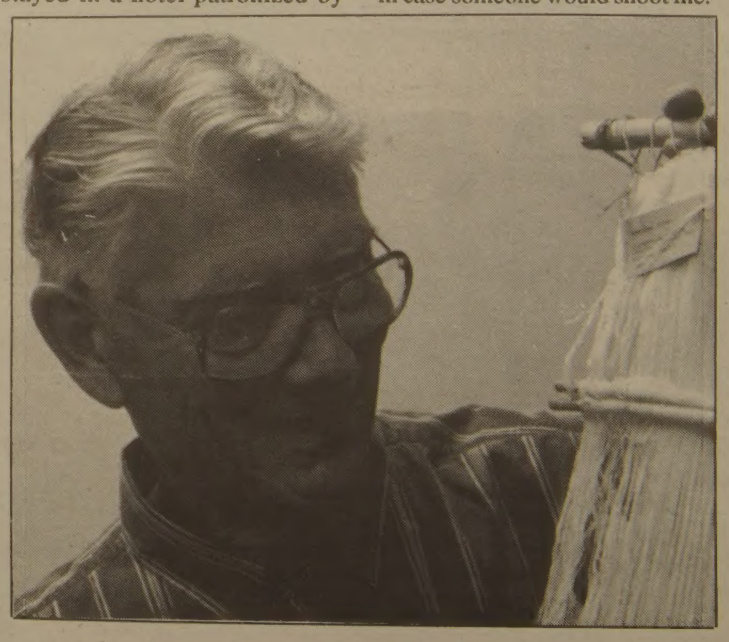
His third goal was to "immerse myself into Spanish/Mexican culture."

Maltais said he made sure he stayed in a hotel patronized by Mexicans and used the public transit. Their mini buses are "very cheap and they pack them (people) in until they're bulging out."

One thing he doesn't recommend is the water. He advises against drinking it or eating anything washed in it. Therefore, you drink a lot of beer, which is "extremely good."

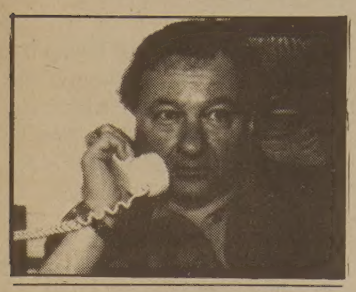
In Mexico, Maltais said he never feels culture shock, foreign, frightened, hassled, harassed or gypped. He also said he has had nothing but goodwill shown to him.

"I'd be terrified to go to Florida in case someone would shoot me."



Gene Maltais looks at one of his artifacts.
Photo by Debbie Cunningham

Balkan horrors deeply rooted in past



The Balkan Beat

G.A. Blazetich

Former Niagara College professor George A. Blazetich taught at the college for more than 26 years. He teaches at Hungary's University of Budapest and will be a regular contributor to the Niagara News.

On a grim, rainy June day in a sleepy town north of Zagreb, I asked my well-educated Croatian friend if there was a solution to the seemingly endless conflict that bloodies her world.

"Stop the Serbs," she immediately replied.

"At best a short-term solution," I countered.

"So, what other solution is there?" she asked.

"Maybe there is no solution at all," I responded.

That conversation took me back to Niagara College and lectures by which I attempted to explore solutions to the Balkan crisis. I had proposed to my students that the Western/Occidental mindset—relying on what is formally referred to as the Inductive-Deductive Method of Scientific Reasoning—assumes that there is a solution to every problem.

I also proposed to my students that perhaps there is not.

In recent history alone, Croatian fascists—called Ustashe—supported by Hitler's Nazis killed several hundred thousand Serbs. In fact, the leader of the Ustashe, Ante Pavelic, established such a brutal tyranny within his jurisdiction in 1941, even the Nazi commander in Zagreb protested at the excesses.

The shoe now appears to be on the other foot.

The Bosnian Serbs—probably justifiably—have been calumniated in the media over the last three years for torture, rape, and the latest buzzphrase for human cruelty: "ethnic cleansing," another of genocide's faces.

Croatian contacts in the summer of 1995 confirmed what I had heard of, but did not personally witness, during visits to Croatia in 1991 and 1992.

In the early months of this 41-month-plus war, Serbs ripped the eyeballs out of captured Croatian soldiers with their fingers, then sent them home. Later on in the war, because ripping eyeballs out with fingers was "painful" for the ripper, a tuning-fork-like instrument was devised to render the excision more comfortable. Never let it be said that even dirty little wars like this one can't boast technological advances.

How many eyeball-less Croatian soldiers were sent home to their families? Who knows for certain? I have heard "thousands."

Do these kinds of memories from both sides figure into a road? Or more of the same brutality as the opportunity arises?

There is, of course, a third side in this human tragedy: the Muslims. Serbs fighting the "Muslim virus" declare that "they (the Muslims) have no real roots here. We have been here for 10 centuries."

Serbs cite horror story upon horror story: "My son witnessed the murder of his father. They cut off his testicles and ripped out his eyes then killed him."

Serbs say the Muslims started the war.

In fact, they claim the world will someday thank the Serbs for stopping the advance of Islam in Europe. They assert that everything the West hears and subsequently reports in its media is Muslim propaganda. For example, Serb soldiers "would never dream of" raping or torturing anyone.

Nothing but Muslim lies they contend.

Even the deadly sniper fire raining down from the hills surrounding Sarajevo is attributed to the Muslims.

A teacher visiting Budapest from California told me: "If the Serbs don't stop the Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, fundamentalistic Islam will gain a foothold in Europe and transplant Middle Eastern-style terrorism with it."

And we should not be deluded by the current co-operation between Croats and Muslims. There is no love to be lost there either. In accordance with ancient Balkan tradition, that tenuous relationship can come unglued instantly. Orthodox Serbs and Catholic Croatians have long desired to divide Bosnia-Herzegovina between themselves, and the Muslims know it.

Not to put too fine a point on it: the three sides hate each other. Recent barbarities have merely served to further lengthen long and dark memories.

Meanwhile, back in relatively peaceful Western Croatia, the merchant from whom I bought a bracelet for my mother posited his solution: "If we had oil, the Americans would have intervened in the first days of the war and stopped the Serbs, right?"

Solutions, anyone?

Right-wing movement gains momentum

By SANDRA DAMICO
Staff Writer

The April 26 Oklahoma City bomb blast ignited a controversy, thrusting the North American far-right movement into the spotlight and under a microscope.

America was shocked by allegations the attack on their heartland may have been planned and executed by a young, American Gulf War veteran, and suspected anti-government right-wing extremist, Timothy McVeigh. But recent Canadian revelations have brought the issue closer to home.

In February, the CTV documentary Hearts of Hate — based on Warren Kinsella's best-selling book Web of Hate — presented Canadians with the image of boot-clad, neo-Nazi skinheads marching on to Parliament Hill, chanting "Sieg Heil" and vowing to "take back Canada."

National issues seem to indicate the pervasiveness of the far-right ideology.

In January, federal Defence Minister David Collenette ordered the disbandment of the Canadian Airborne Regiment. This followed a storm of controversy surrounding the March 1993 torture and murder of a Somali man at the hands of some Canadian soldiers who were sent to protect Somalians as part of a United Nations peacekeeping mission.

During the investigation, videotapes emerged showing drunken soldiers engaging in acts of racial hatred.

A photograph in Web of Hate showed Cpl. Matt McKay clad in a Hitler T-shirt, giving a Nazi salute with a Nazi banner in the background of his Canadian Armed Forces barracks.

The Canadian government has charged McKay and Pte. David Brocklebank in connection with the 1993 murder. But relatives of the slain man have launched their own investigation into the incident and warn that more soldiers will be implicated.

"The military is a good recruiting ground for organizations such as the Heritage Front," said Heritage Front leader Wolfgang Droege in a 1993 CBC interview.

The Heritage Front is a right-wing umbrella organization, established in 1989 by convicted felon Droege and associate Grant Bristow.

In 1993, Bristow was exposed as a spy for the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS).

Despite commendations for his thorough, investigative probe into Canada's far-right network, recent accusations have raised questions about Bristow's involvement with the far right.

Was he a CSIS agent or a willing participant in the Heritage Front?

Former Heritage Front member Elise Hategan — quoted in a Toronto Star interview, June 1995 — called Bristow "the key intelligence worker in the Heritage Front" who launched a "massive terror campaign" against anti-racism activists.

Claims that Bristow used Canadian government money to fund the extreme right-wing umbrella group have been made by both the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Heritage Front.

Although the investigation continues, Bristow has been given a new identity and remains in hiding.

Locally, the Heritage Front established a Niagara hotline in April as a tool for recruiting new members and a forum for issues ranging from gun control and immigration to accusations the government will condone bestiality and sado-masochism through the proposed hate crimes bill (Bill C-41).

The Heritage Front has raised issues that — in this age of political correctness — are perhaps thought about but not often openly expressed.

Heritage Front spokesperson Bill Livingston says the controversial group operates within the law and is doing nothing wrong.

Anti-racism activist Susan Howard-Azzeh, of St. Catharines, expressed concern the hotline messages and recruiting tactics may lure members of the mainstream population and youth into the group.

By addressing popular concerns, the Heritage Front may attract those who are frustrated about Canada's social and economic climate, she said.

Although the idea of belonging to a group whose members share these same frustrations may seem comforting, Howard-Azzeh warns the Heritage Front — which has been linked to other, more violent far-right groups— has an agenda of racial intolerance and radical political views.

During interviews conducted by *Niagara News* for an upcoming feature on the far-right movement, many people expressed fear and uncertainty about issues facing Canada today.

Gun control, employment equity, immigration policies, big government, reverse discrimination, taxpayer-funded programs for minorities, crime rate, fairness of the judicial system, and a rapidly changing nation were issues that people wanted to discuss.

What are your views? Give us some feedback. Fill out the survey form and put it into drop boxes located in the Learning Resource Centre (Simcoe Building), the Registrar's office (Hennepin Hall) and the cafeteria (Black Walnut).

Please circle the answer you agree with most for each question.

1. Do you agree with the official federal government policy of multiculturalism?
   yes no don't know
2. In an attempt to make all Canadians equal, is the government oppressing the "white race"?
   yes no don't know
3. Do you agree with mandatory registration of all firearms and other proposed restrictions for gun owners?
   yes no don't know
4. Immigrants seem to get all the good jobs?
   yes no don't know
5. Effective social and economic change can be made within the existing political system?
   yes no don't know
6. Is racism a problem in Canada?
   yes no don't know
7. Immigrants from certain countries are likely to commit crimes once in Canada?
   yes no don't know
8. Do you believe the longterm employment and financial security enjoyed by the older generation can ever be realized by your generation?
   yes no don't know
9. Do you understand and agree with the ideology of the Heritage Front and other right-wing groups?
   yes no don't know
10. Do you plan a move to the U.S. or another country to seek opportunities not available in Canada?
    yes no don't know
11. Ethnic segregation is a good idea?
    yes no don't know
12. Age: 18-20. 21-24. 25-30. 31-35. 36-40. 40+.
13. Sex: M F

The results will appear in the Nov. 2 edition of *Niagara News*

Program covers every element of multi-media

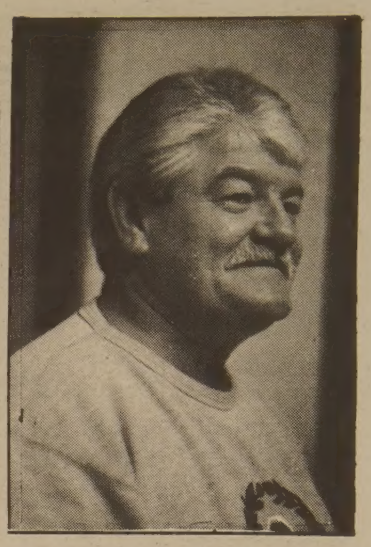
Multi-media's more conceptual than technical

By SUZANNE ROBERTS
Staff Writer

Concepts rather than techniques are the foundation for the framework of the Interactive Multi-media Technician program.

This new post-graduate program has attracted 22 full-time students and one part-time, all of whom have a background as diverse as the nature of the program, says program co-ordinator Dave Robinson, 48, of Port Dalhousie.

Students are graphic arts, journalism or broadcasting graduates, university graduates or mature students.



Progam co-ordinator and life-long learner Dave Robinson brings a positive attitude to multi-media.
Photo by Suzanne Roberts

Robinson says they represent every element of multi-media. "Variety of educational background and life-skills is the strength of the program."

Multi-media is more conceptual than technical. The concept of interactive multi-media, says Robinson, is info-sharing, communication and presentation through video, film audio, graphics and animation in an interactive environment controlled by computer; but the program is not about computers as much as it's about communication and design.

Robinson says the basic skills do not change nor do the concepts: concepts of visual design, color, balance, writing for audio — "writing for the ear." How to appeal to people's senses "remains fundamental and constant."

He says students dive into one of two occupational streams. Some, after graduating from the program, go back to their original discipline and use multi-media as an enhancement of skills they can bring to the workplace. Some students find a stand-alone occupation in multi-media as animators, designers or programmers. For these students, their original discipline enhances their new occupation.

'Variety of educational background and life-skills is the strength of the program.'

"Everything becomes inter-related in how things are applied," says Robinson.

The main benefit of interactive multi-media is its potential for breaking down barriers of fear and prejudice through experiencing other cultures first-hand, he says.

There are ethical drawbacks, however, of this technology, and Robinson does not hesitate to acknowledge them. They include less self-reliance and increased dependence on technology and using substitutes. Robinson's idea of substitution would be a pen pal on the Internet instead of "a warm-body friend."

Asked if society may lose its human instinct, Robinson says it comes down to a choice that everyone must make. "The more education we have opens the doors and lets us know what we don't know. Every door opens more doors and new directions for expanding out."

Roll of drums opens fair

Rides and entertainment

By SUSAN DERUITER
Staff Writer

The Wainfleet Fall Fair opened with the roll of drums as E.L. Crossley Marching Band led the parade last night.

"This is our first parade and we are excited about the response," said co-ordinator Debbie Paul.

The fair, which began last night, continues today from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Wainfleet Sports Complex. It is viewed as the "showcase of Wainfleet's gardens, kitchens and handicrafts." Conklin Amusements provides rides and entertainment throughout the weekend.

Activities include pedal tractor pulls, log sawing and line dancing. For the first time there will be a poultry show as well as the pet, horse and cattle shows.

"Wainfleet Fair has gone to the birds," laughed Tom Dakin, chairman of the poultry show.

Still promoted as an agricultural fair, the variety and display of flowers, fruits, vegetables and livestock rivals that of many larger fairs. "We have to limit our entrants to Wainfleet residents because we fill all the arena space available," said secretary Marion Thompson.

A $4 membership for adults or $1 for children will admit visitors into all three days of the fair.

Horticulture students in high spirits

By LORI LACOMBE
Staffwriter

The students at Niagara College's Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines are in high spirits this fall.

School has been in for just a few weeks, but they haven't slowed down from last term. Last year's first-year students were kept busy this summer not only with the co-operative program the Horticulture course requires, but also with participation in the Enviro-Fest held at Montebello Park in St. Catharines in June.

"The Enviro-Fest was organized for anyone interested in the environment, and many local groups participated in the festivities," said Jon Ogryzlo, director of the School of Environment, Horticulture and Agribusiness.

Ogryzlo works out of the St. Catharines Horticulture Centre on Niagara Street.

He said there was a display organized by the Horticulture students.

The Enviro-Fest featured novelties such as solar-powered cars. This was the first year for the festival and it fared well enough to consider planning another for next summer, said Ogryzlo.

Enrolment has increased at the Horticulture Centre for the 1995-1996 year. There are about 15 more first-year students than last year, including the addition of a new January-Start program. A January-Start program was tentatively started last year, but had to be cancelled because only five students showed an interest.

"We had quite a few people show an interest in studying horticulture this year, so the January-Start program will take the overflow from the regular fall-to-spring program," said Ogryzlo.

With the addition of new faces this fall, comes the development of new courses. Some are post-diploma programs for graduates and some are interesting courses anyone can take. New courses include adult landscaping, an arboriculture apprenticeship, and turf specialist.

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Friday, Sept. 22 — Lester & The B Flats — Dance, R&B — $3.00 adm.
Saturday, Sept. 23 — Jerome Godboo & Deep Down — $3.00 adm.
Wednesday, Sept. 27 — Quackers Comedy Nite — $3.00 adm.
Every Wednesday Afternoon at 12 p.m. — Psychic Readings by WILL (Tarot & Pendulum)

Friday, Sept. 29 — Grier Coppens & Taxi Chain — Bagpipe Blues — $5.00 adm.
Saturday, Sept. 30 — Jack De Keyzer — Rock'n Blues — $5.00 adm.
Sunday, Oct. 1 — All Day — Come Celebrate Port Colborne's 125th Birthday — Beer & Wine Tent — Music By Family Pride — See You There - Lock 8 Park
Friday, Oct. 6 — Benny & The Jets — Tribute to Elton John — $6.00 adm.

Saturday, Oct. 7 — Octo-Run — Car Rally & Scavenger Hunt. Register now at Joe's Place
Saturday, Oct. 14 — Bourbon Tabernacle Choir — $8.00 adv. $10.00 door
Friday, Oct. 20 — One Step Beyond — Acid Jazz — $5.00 adm.
Saturday, Oct. 21 — Brass Routes — 12 piece R&B — $6.00 adm.
Saturday, Oct. 28 — Halloween Bash with special guests Roddie Romero & The Rock'N Cajuns

Every Thursday — Jambone — Synergy of 70's & 80's favourites. No Cover. — 15¢ Wings
$2 off admission with your Niagara College student card
Every Sunday — Joe's New House Band — Family Pride — R&B, Soul, Pop

Niagara's Grape and Wine celebration

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

A *"Tradition of Excellence"* continued with the 44th annual Niagara Grape and Wine Festival which finishes this weekend.

St. Catharines and surrounding communities are hosting more than 100 events until Sunday, including concerts, parades, children's events and winery tours.

The festival's highlight is the Grande Parade at 11 a.m. tomorrow, a 90-minute ribbon of floats, dignitaries, marching and steel bands, clowns and more.

Celebrity guests this year include Honorary Parade Chair Wendy Wiebe, world champion rower; and Honorary Parade Marshall Ernie Whitt, a former Toronto Blue Jay and co-owner of the St. Catharines Stompers baseball team.

Here's a sampling of events scheduled this weekend:

Friday, Sept. 22

* 1 p.m. — 9:30 p.m. Niagara Lifestyles Fall Home Show, Fairview Mall, St. Catharines, $5 admission, children 12 and under free.

* 7 p.m. — 1 a.m. 6th annual Event in the Tent, "Tribute to Rock and Roll," Ramada Pkwy, St. Catharines, tickets are $10 and available at the festival office.

Saturday, Sept. 23

* 7 a.m. — 10:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Park prior to the parade, Montebello Park, St. Catharines.

* 11 a.m. 44th annual Pen Centre Niagara Grape and Wine Grande Parade, St. Catharines.

* 1:30 p.m. Pen Centre Grande Parade Awards Program following the parade, Pen Centre, St. Catharines.

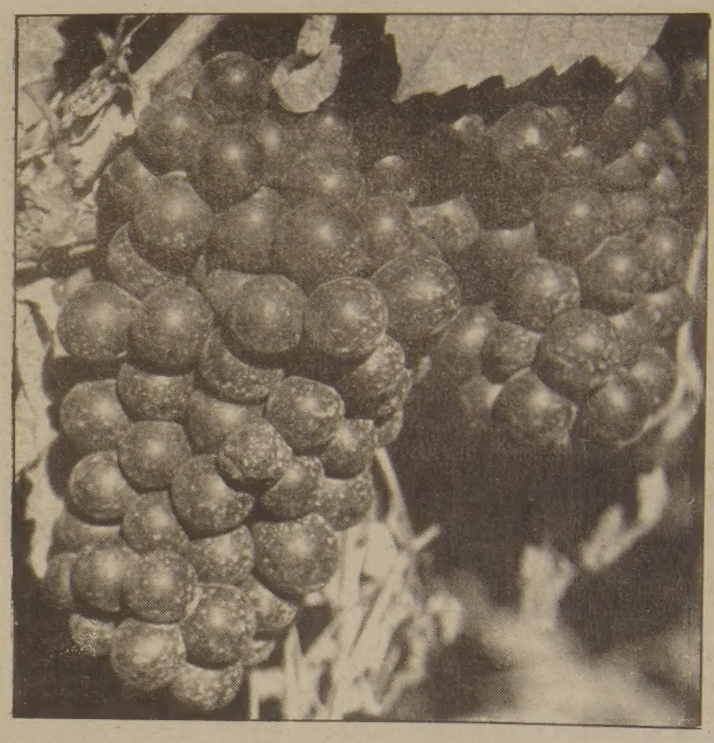
* noon — 4 p.m. Teddy Bear Picnic, Montebello Park, St. Catharines.

* 7 p.m. — 1 a.m. The 6th annual Event in the Tent post-parade bash featuring New York's Nik & The Nice Guys, Ramada Pkwy, St. Catharines, tickets $10 and available at the festival office.

* 8 p.m. — 1 a.m. The Trinidad and Tobago Cultural Association Grape and Wine Jump-Up , music by Sound Revolution and DJ Low Profile, Merritton Community Centre, St. Catharines, tickets $12 in advance, $15 at the door.

Sunday, Sept. 24

* 1 p.m. — 3 p.m. Concert featuring Grammy Award winning artist Walter Ostenak and closing ceremonies, Montebello Park, St. Catharines.



The 44th annual Grape and Wine Festival celebrates the grape harvest with over 100 events.

Photo by Dean Michel

New Grape King crowned in his vineyard

By LEE-ANN AYRES
Staff Writer

There's nothing to wine about at the 44th annual Niagara Grape and Wine Festival. It's bigger and better than ever.

The Grape King has a new look. The festival's committee replaced the traditional gold crown and purple robe with a burgundy blazer.

This year's king, Dan Haist, 48, of Ridgeville is a fourth generation farmer. His 30-acre vineyard supplies Vincor International (formerly Bright's). Haist replaces Clair Wiley, who was last year's king.

Coronation of the Grape King took place on Friday, Sept. 15th where a tour of the king's vineyard followed the coronation.

The Grape King is one of the highest honors given by the Ontario Grape Growers Market Board.

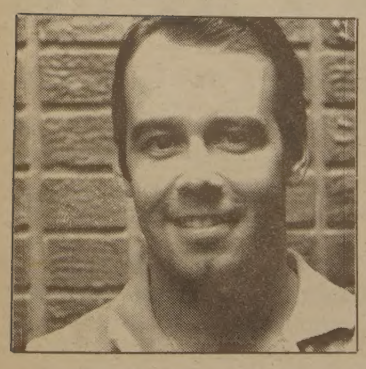
The festival was founded in 1952 by the board and the city of St. Catharines. But the festival is not restricted to the city. Jordan, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Vineland have become involved with the festival over the years.

The festival has something for everyone, including food, drink, music and crafts. Highlighting the final weekend will be the annual Pen Centre Niagara Grape and Wine Festival Grande Parade.

The festival ends Sept. 24.

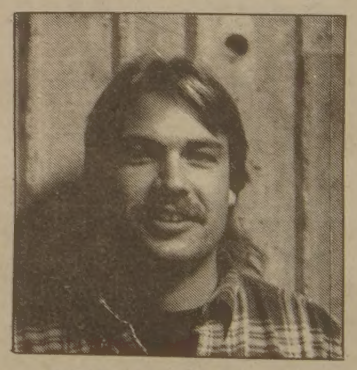
niagara GRAPE & WINE festival

What Niagara looks for in a president

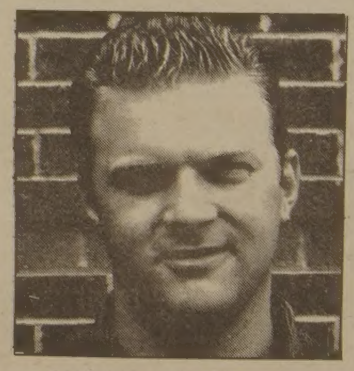


RANDY CONLON, 28

VALERIE GRABOVE



BRIAN HUISMAN, 30



MARK McNIVEN, 24

KIM FRAGOMENI, 25

By LORI LACOMBE
and RONALD DUGUAY
Staff Writers

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE IN A NEW COLLEGE PRESIDENT?

Randy Conlon, 28, a liaison officer with the college's marketing and communications department, says the new president "should steer the college in the same direction as John Saso did." He also says he'd like to see someone who'd pick up where Mr. Saso left off.

"I think the new president should be someone who is personable, vibrant and who is able to communicate with the various populations involved with the college," says English teacher **Valerie Grabove**. "Someone we can be proud of."

"I'd like to see a good attitude and he/she should be highly educated and down-to-earth. I think leadership and personal skills are important," says **Brian Huisman**, 30, in his third year of the Manufacturing Engineering program.

Mark McNiven, 21, said the new president should be someone who is in touch with the students, but with a business background. A second-year Broadcast-Radio, Television and Film program student, McNiven is also vice-president of internal affairs for the Student Administrative Council.

"He/she would have to want certain things to go through, like the residence, and the new campus that's opening," says McNiven.

"I think the new president should be someone who knows what's going on with the students and who'll check out what's going on in the classrooms," says **Kim Fragomeni**, 25, a second-year Law and Security Administration program student. Fragomeni also works as part of the After Hours' security team.

SPORTS

Hockey program finally runs out of life

Money left to be divided

By JENNIFER DICKENS and BRIAN BOWMAN
Staff Writers

Money, money, money. Everyone loves it; everyone wants it; everyone needs it. The question everyone is asking is, who gets it?

The Niagara College Knights' men's varsity hockey team rode in on their last horse as of last spring.

As a result of financial tension from the Student Administrative Council (SAC) and the college's athletic program, Niagara was forced to discontinue the sports team.

Peter Rylander, Niagara's athletic director, defended the administration's decision as one that made the most sense financially.

Rylander estimated the cost of last year's hockey program to be in the $40,000 range, a figure he deems to be too high for one sport.

"Let's face it. By eliminating our hockey program we can then offer a greater diversity of sports to a lot more people," said Rylander. "It has become the philosophy of many of the colleges in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) and we intend to follow that trend."

The trend seems to be at an all-time low with only six teams remaining in the OCAA.

"School shouldn't only be about sports," said Lyndon Johnston, 21, SAC's vice-president of athletic affairs and a former member of the school's hockey team. "I'm as upset as everyone else that the hockey program was cancelled, but at 40, I don't want to look back on my years in college and realize my only accomplishment was that I played varsity hockey."

Johnston, a Lucknow, Ont., native, added, "I'd have come a long way if I were only here to play hockey. I came here for an education. Hockey was just a bonus."

The biggest bonus from the cut is the money distributed to the remaining teams, as well as funding new, less expensive sports.

Johnston said a downhill skiing team is on the drawing board.

Carol Boettcher, the college's vice-president of student life and human resources, boasts of the college's intent to provide more sports activities for female students.

"Our population at the school is 52 per cent female — that means over half the student body is paying a sports fee and we want them (women) to have an equal opportunity to participate in activities," said Boettcher.

The breakdown of costs for the remaining sports provided at the college are men's basketball, $16,000; women's basketball, $13,000; men's volleyball, $16,000; women's volleyball, $9,000; women's soccer, $3,000; men's soccer, $3,000; men's touch football, $2,000; golf, $2,500; badminton, $5,400; curling, $4,200. The total cost for the athletic program is $81,200.

Johnston said no matter how much money is spent on maintaining athletics, having visible school spirit will improve student life, socially and athletically.

Intramurals anyone

By JOHN EATON
Staff Writer

Suffering from back-to-school blues?

If so, and you're interested in getting out of the rut you're in, intramural sports may be just the answer for you.

Here is a partial list of intramural sports being offered in terms one and two.

Term one:

Badminton: Fun weeks. No need to register. Come out and meet new people. Game times are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Play Tuesday, Sept. 19 and Thursday, Sept. 28.

Co-Ed Volleyball: Register by Friday, Sept. 29 at 3 p.m. Game times are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Play Tuesday, Oct. 3 through Thursday, Oct. 26.

Ball Hockey: Register by Friday, Oct. 27. Game times are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Play Tuesday, Oct. 31 through Thursday, Dec. 7.

Term two:

Ice Hockey: Register by Friday, Jan. 12 at 3 p.m. Play from Friday, Jan. 26 to Thursday, Feb. 22.

Basketball: Register by Friday, Feb. 23 at 3 p.m. Play Tuesday, Feb. 27 through Thursday, April 5.

*** All Registrations take place in the athletic department, Mackenzie Building, Welland campus.

*** Please note: No classes are scheduled during study week from Monday, March 11, through Friday, March 15. For further information or inquires, contact Ray Sarkis at the Welland campus 735-2211 ext. 7583.

Everything but hockey

By SALVADOR RAMOS JR.
Staff Writer

And so it begins, another year of college sports but this time there are some changes.

With the new year, the same sports as last year are being offered with some changes and one cancelation said Peter Rylander, the college's director of athletics.

The sports being offered are golf, curling, badminton, touch football, indoor soccer (male and female), basketball (male and female), and volleyball (male and female).

Hockey is not included this year.

Rylander said the department has a limited budget. The cost for running the hockey team is estimated at $40,000. Last year the team needed a $20,000 grant from the Student Administrative Council (SAC).

This year there was no grant.

"We are sad about it, but economics decide," Rylander said."The hockey team has always done well, but it is too expensive."

He said there are only six colleges (out of 25) with a hockey team.

Concerning the remaining $20,000, Rylander said the money will be spent on the other college teams for increasing expenses.

He said the proposed the new campus might have a new gym and it is the department's job to equip the building.

Rylander said coaching changes have been made at Niagara.

Brian Bleich is the new women's basketball coach. He is a former player at Brock University and was a member of the Canadian National Team from 1985 to 1987.

The men's volleyball team will have last year's captain Blair Cudmore as new head coach. He was a member of the All-Canadian team last year and was the college's athlete of the year.

Last year's women's volleyball coach resigned. The new coach is Caroline Schatz.

The men's indoor soccer team also has a new coach. Last year, Steve Celestini was coaching both the men and female teams; this year he will coach only the female team. The new coach for the men is Sandro Perruzza.

Rylander said the teams look good, but there are a lot of other good teams in the respective leagues.

Knight pride

By JOHN EATON
Staff Writer

So you think you have what it takes to be a Niagara College Knight; here's your big break.

Check out this partial list of the 1995-96 varsity tryout and practice schedule. All students are welcome.

Women's volleyball: First meeting: Monday, Oct. 2 at 5:30 p.m. in gym.
First practice: Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 5:30 p.m. in gym
Regular practice times:
Mondays: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesdays: 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursdays: 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Coach: Carolyn Schatz

Women's indoor soccer: First meeting: Monday, Sept. 25, at 5:30 p.m.
Regular practice times: To be announced at first meeting
Coach: Steve Celestini

Note: All meetings and practices are at the Welland campus. Any student trying out for a team MUST BE FULL TIME AND HAVE PAID THEIR FEES. Further information is available by calling the Welland campus at (905) 735-2211 and dialing one of the following extensions.

Peter Rylander at ext. 7681, Ray Sarkis at ext. 7583 or Fred Bassi ext. 7794.

The Ducks are back again

By JASON CHASE
Staff Writer

The Welland Aquaducks' goals for next year are to find local ownership, get a new club manager and have corporate sponsorship in place by Jan. 1.

The Ducks are part of the independent North Atlantic Baseball League (NABL) that took the field in May, while the fans stayed home.

Greg Smith, a former member of the Pirates Booster Club and a member of the Welland advisory committee for the NABL, said the reason for the poor attendance was the late May start and the fact no one knew about the team. The attendance goals set for the season were around 1,200 per game but the goal fell short with an average attendance of only 200 a game.

Brian Essery, 20, a right-handed pitcher for the Aquaducks and a native from St. Catharines, said the fans weren't ready to trust the team because of the sudden departure of the Pirates the year before.

"The attendance started to pick up near the end of the season as people began to come around to us. Hopefully, they'll come back next year and bring friends with them," said Essery.

"One of the things needed to draw fans are more promotions."

"A lot of things went wrong but the ball was good...by the end of the season things were going fine. The ball being played was even better than the Pirates."

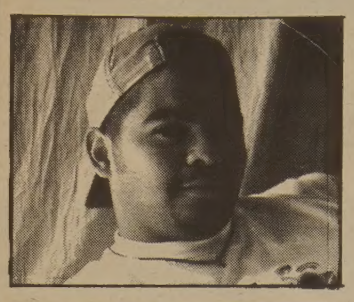
Essery said one of the things that went wrong was coaching changes a week before the start of the season, so everyone had to remake the team.

"The team finished in second place and a lot of the players were in the top of all the statistical catergories, some even in the top three."

"Just get a guy in there who knows what to do and the team will work," said Smith.

The NABL is a seven-team league consisting of undrafted players or those released from other organizations. Next season look for two new teams to enter the league and the possibility of an additional two later.

Will the 49ers repeat or bust?



Sal Ramos Jr.

After the smoke cleared from last year's 49ers Bowl, the real action began.

Expansion National Football League (NFL) teams in Carolina and Jacksonville prepared for their debuts, the L.A. Rams are now the St. Louis Rams, eight new head coaches were hired, the salary cap increased by more than $2 million, the Raiders went back home to Oakland, a bold new owner (Malcolm Glazer) took charge of Tampa Bay, and Joe Montana retired.

These are all remarkable feats compared to the trials which baseball put its fans through.

All in all, the NFL season will come down to the question of who is better this year, the Dallas Cowboys or the San Francisco 49ers?

Across half a continent the two giants sit, matching each other in any way possible.

For the past three years the Cowboys and 49ers have pulled away from the rest of the pack, deciding who will get the gold in their own little Super Bowl called the National Football Conference (NFC) championship.

The trend will continue this year. Either the 49ers or Cowboys will make it 12 Super Bowls in a row for the NFC, unless an upset takes place and neither team makes it. Then the American Football Conference has a chance to win its first Super Bowl in 11 years.

AFC East. The Miami Dolphins should have no problems winning the division title and perhaps a trip to the AFC championship. Since the Buffalo Bills do not have what it takes anymore, the New England Patroits are still not quite good enough (they might be a surprise though), and neither do the Baltimore Colts or New York Jets pose any real threat.

AFC Central. The Pittsburgh Steelers should take care of the Browns and will not get any competition from Houston, Cincinnati, or Jacksonville. A guaranteed trip to the AFC championship.

AFC West. The battle will be between the Oakland Raiders and Kansas City Chiefs, the Denver Broncos might be a mild threat, and the miracles will not come for either the San Diego Chargers or the Seattle Seahawks.

The AFC championship will be between the Miami Dolphins (as long as they do not die by the end of the season as they usually do) and the Pittsburgh Steelers. From there your guess is as good as mine. Either way they will fall to the Cowboys or 49ers.

NFC East. The Cowboys will win the division hands down. No competition from the Arizona Cardinals, Philadelphia Eagles, New York Giants or Washington Redskins.

NFC Central will provide the only excitement in the NFC with a battle between the Green Bay Packers, Chicago Bears, Detroit Lions and Minnesota Vikings for playoffs spots. Tampa Bay will be left behind, again.

NFC West. The 49ers will get some competition from the New Orleans Saints, St. Louis Rams and Atlanta Falcons, but will still win their division. Carolina Panthers will have to wait until next year to be a threat (if).

The NFC championship winner will be decided on Nov. 12, when the 49ers play the Cowboys. The winner should also take the Super Bowl.

Upsets might take place but the future should be the same as the past three years, unless all the planets line up and weird things happen.

Ripken surpasses legend

Jason Chase

Sept. 6, 1995, will be remembered as the day the fans fell in love with baseball again. That day the untouchable was broken and Lou Gehrig's greatness lived again.

Since Gehrig said farewell to baseball on July 4, 1939, after his career was cut short by amyotrophic lateral sclerosis - his consecutive games streak of 2,130 stood untouchable for 50 years.

On Sept. 6, Cal Ripken Jr. of the Baltimore Orioles re-wrote baseball history by playing in his 2,131 consecutive game. Ripken worked over 13 seasons to surpass Gehrig's mark.

His mark could not come at a better time for baseball, a time where many fans had left. Ripken brought focus and fans back to the game of summer and the up-coming division championships will win back what baseball lost. With a strike last year erasing the World Series, fans went away with disgust and anger at their boys of summer. Attendance around the league was down and nothing would bring back the fans except time to heal.

Ripken was the band-aid that helped heal the wound and get the love of the game back into the hearts of fans. Ripken caught the attention of North America and held them at the edge of their seats until his mark became official. Ripken made baseball fans ride a rollar coaster of emotions ranging from triumph to tears of joy. For one instant everyone was a Baltimore Orioles' fan cheering and applauding the man known simply as Cal Jr.

Ripken in no way matches Gehrig in strength or power, but if you were to measure their hearts they would be the same. Their hearts would be full of determination and love for the game of baseball. Their hearts would also be full of appreciation for the fans that support them.

Golf season in full swing

By JOHN EATON
Staff Writer

Fore!

The 1995-96 edition of the Niagara College golf team has been decided. Team members were chosen after two rounds of golf.

The first round took place Sept. 14 at the Willo-Dell Golf Club in Niagara Falls. The second round was Sept. 19 at Lake Ridge Golf Club in Oshawa.

The four team members chosen by Peter Rylander, the college's athletic co-ordinator, will represent Niagara at the Ontario College Athletics Association Golf Championship in Peterborough, beginning Sept. 26.

Darin French, a student from the Technology program, shot 73 in the first round, and followed that with an 80 in the second round.

Brian Weir, a Construction Technology program student, shot 80 in the first round and improved by one stroke in the second round.

Recreation Leadership program student Jason White shot rounds of 82 and 80.

Greg Somerville, a student in the Ambulance and Emergency Care program, shot 82 in both his rounds.

"If they shoot these scores in Peterborough, we will be in the hunt for one of the medals," said Rylander when asked about the team's chances in the championship.

The team leaves for Peterborough Sept. 26 at 7:45 a.m. Tournament results will be reported in the Oct. 5 edition of Niagara News.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Piper blowing his following fans away

By WILL WEBSTER
Staff Writer

Grier Coppins knows exactly where and how he wants his band Taxi Chain to go — everywhere and slow.

"We go to a place, we turn the place on," said Coppins. "We go back, the place is more full. We go back the next time and somebody approaches about another place and we go there. It's just growing in a straight ahead, people, good way."

With a new CD set for release in late September, Coppins is busy steadily building an audience for what has been dubbed "bagpipe juke joint" music.

Taxi Chain is not his first foray onto the Canadian music scene. The 36-year-old Scarborough native comes from a long line of world class Scottish pipers. For 13 years he was a member of Rare Air, a noted Vancouver-based success story that released six records, earned a Juno nomination, and featured two pipers.

"It became a push/pull situation with half the band not wanting to be there," said Coppins, about the break-up of Rare Air. "I got kind of frustrated with it and just decided one day to drop it."

Coppins exiled himself to being a taxi driver in Bancroft, Ont., but it wasn't long before he started writing some new songs. After a few years he found himself back in the city, this time Toronto.

"I came back not really knowing what I was doing," said Coppins, just before a recent appearance at The Club in St. Catharines. "I went to a friend's basement where he had a little studio and started inviting people over."

Coppins laid down a few tracks which were to become part of Taxi Chain's first record, **Pinnochio's Broken Heart**. The band was an "ever-changing cast of characters" and remained so until early 1994, when the current lineup emerged and started touring.

Taxi Chain features Creg Johnston - sax, Joe Burns - bass, Sam Cino, drums and Chris Staig - guitar. Coppins adds bagpipes, penny whistle, guitar and vocals. Over the past 20 months they have developed into a tight performing unit that is slowly building audiences throughout Ontario and the United States.

In press materials, they claim to want to turn respectable drinking establishments into "down and dirty, hedonistic Bagpipe Juke-Joints," and to "take over the world." According to Coppins, they will do this by "playing better music, keep travelling further and further, and staying out longer periods of time."

The band is exercising complete control over its artistic development. Coppins says he has no interest in hearing from managers who have "85 bars I'm going to book you into."

Not easy to define, Taxi Chain's music is drawn from a variety of influences, and, according to band members, continues to be influenced. The songs cover the gamut from country, to rock, to alternative with a few souped-up versions of old standards thrown in, including a lively rendition of Johnny Cash's I Walk the Line.

"We play for everybody," said Coppins. "We play to college kids, we play to bikers, we play to hippies. The music is not about being aimed. It's just honest music with a bit of fun in it, a bit of melancholy. It's a real humanity trip really."

As a piper Coppins carries with him many of the traditions unique to pipers. One of these is the practice of "piping-in" to performances. Before each gig Coppins, Johnston and Cino head out into the streets where they begin an impromptu performance.

With pipes blaring, drums rattling and saxophone wailing, they march around until they have a small parade following, which they lead into whatever bar they are performing in.

Coppins, who began piping at age seven, grew up hanging out in legion halls and playing Cape Breton style music. He says piping-in was something he learned as a child.

"This is centuries and centuries of walking with music," he said. "It is a very ritualistic thing. I got addicted to this thing of walking in and walking out. I played bagpipes, what else was I supposed to do. . . These things have always gone on and are much older than us."

Grier Coppins and Taxi Chain will be at Joe's Place in Port Colborne on Sept. 29.

Grier Coppins preserves a long tradition of piping in. "This is centuries and centuries of walking with music," he said. Coppins and his band Taxi Chain are at Joe's Place in Port Colborne on Sept. 29.

Photo by Will Webster

Bad soup brewing

By WILL WEBSTER
Staff Writer

Apparently there is a good reason why Blind Melon called their new CD **"Soup."** It is soup, the sort served in a greasy spoon of suspicious content. Is this beef, pork, chicken or the sole of some farmer's gumboot?

A press release accompanying this mish-mash of noise and guitar riffs states: "Just when it looked like rock 'n' roll was set to succumb to trend-mongers and bandwagon-jumpers, along came a band of genuine, down-home musicians, bent on striking a blow for the regular guy."

Blind Melon may well have struck a blow for the regular guy with their first CD, but with **Soup**, they send that same guy scurrying for a barf bag. There is absolutely nothing of interest in this album, unless you are interested in gazing at Blind Melon's navel (band members are apparently content to do so).

Background information reveals the band members went in separate directions for several months and returned, each with his own ingredients, to make **Soup**. The trouble is, everyone brought back the ingredients for a different soup and the recipe seems to have read "throw it all in a pot, boil and serve."

The most interesting aspect of this Andy Wallace-Blind Melon-produced CD is the packaging. It comes wrapped in one of those plasticized menus found in family restaurants everywhere. Sad but true, the fare served up is just as bland as the swill served in restaurants that use such menus. No rating for this crock.

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A UNITED WAY AGENCY

Marketing Niagara around the globe

Jos Nolle attracting foreign students

By SHELLY PARKES
Staff Writer

Jos Nolle has a goal.

Nolle, 39, is the new manager of International Operations at Niagara College. His two-year goal is to increase the current 106 international students to "200 students, with even a larger diversity."

The students are mainly from Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Nolle is trying to attract students from Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Spain and Germany and welcomes students from other countries.

Nolle started working for Niagara College May 1. His main objective is to promote the college worldwide and to get students to study at Niagara.

He said there are different ways of promoting the college and finding students. He sets up booths at high schools holding education fairs or has business partners working on commission per student registered. He may ask other travellers to promote the school.

"Previous students are great promoters," Nolle said, because they tell their family and friends about Niagara.

Nolle works with Judy Ventresca, his secretary, and Sean Coote, the international student adviser.

"They help the students with banking, counselling and practical matters," he said. "They make the students feel at ease in Canada and at Niagara College."

Nolle said during the summer groups of 20 to 25 students come mainly from Japan and Mexico to take English as a Second Language (ESL).

In the morning, they take English classes, but afternoons are recreational. They go to places such as Marineland in Niagara Falls.

"Some like it so much here, that they come back to study," he added.

When international students come to Niagara about 50 per cent know what they want to study, such as computers or tourism. "The other half decide once they are here," said Nolle.

Nolle said once a month he will be holding international nights at After Hours with guest speakers. Nolle invites Canadian students "in order to meet other students and interact with them."

He said speakers will always be from different countries, speaking on international subjects about business, health and human rights issues.

Oct. 18 and 19 will be international days. There will be planned events such as speakers from Uganda and Argentina.

"This should be interesting for Canadian students as well as international students," Nolle said.

He says he wants to have a sports day with teams from individual programs representing a country. This is meant to integrate Canadians and international students.

Other events include dances from other countries and aboriginal and African storytellers, he said. Dinners with barbecues and Asian food are also in the plans. It will be organized by the students, but Nolle will help.

Nolle said he wants the international days to continue every year in October and make it an entire week.

"These different activities are used to make Niagara College aware of the growing number of international students here," he said.

Vision 2000 broadens education

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

General education classes are now mandatory in every Ontario community college program.

Vision 2000, which reviewed the mandate of Ontario's colleges, "talked about the need for students to be exposed to a broader and more global education," says Bruce Tallon, coordinator of General Education and Advanced Studies at Niagara College.

All community colleges are required to have one general education class each term for all programs.

"Part of the rationale is to avoid over specialization," says Tallon, adding general education makes the student more adaptive in the job market.

Employers want to be able to train their employees for other jobs and with the growing global economy, it's also necessary to be educated about other countries and cultures, he says.

"What better way to do that than to study the accumulated knowledge of humankind."

The introduction of widespread general education classes at Niagara has been "working better than we thought.

"But like anything else, there are always wrinkles in the fabric and you have to iron those out."

The biggest difficulty has been "misinformation given in some parts of the college" such as registration in the general education classes themselves.

Because every student is required to take one of these classes, acceptance is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Space usually opens as students drop classes and then the vacancy goes to whomever finds this out first.

The trouble starts when those students who had originally picked that class as their first choice find out someone else has been given this space instead of them.

Another problem has been the unintentional overbooking of classes and some students have had to leave.

For those English teachers who have had some of their English classes discontinued, this time has been both "a crisis and an opportunity," says Tallon.

They are no longer consistently doing what they do best but as a "perk," they can now teach subject matter they may have always found interesting, he says.

"I guess the real benefit of general education is that it provides a broadening and some degree of depth to the person."

He said he hopes some classes will be successful and continue and new ones will be added each year.

College Council lacking membership

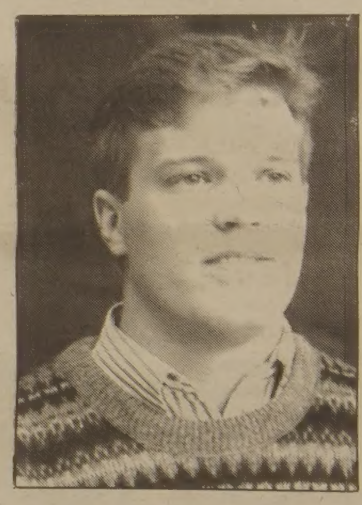
By BEN FISHER
Staff Writer

Niagara College's College Council is trying to address its role following the resignation of president Tom Fraser. Citing a conflict of interest, Fraser handed council his resignation on May 17, 1995.

Vice-chair Trevor Twining, a second-year student, says "constant fluctuation in membership represents concern. Membership must be addressed. Student membership rose...last year quite a few attended."

Niagara's College Council is a venue for making recommendations to the president.

There are 11 seats on council reserved for students, however, only five seats are filled. Council's sign-in sheet shows 10 of 32 members were present on May 17.



Vice-chair Trevor Twining, Niagara College Council

Present council has decided the old and new councils will meet in a closed session sometime in the near future. Ideas will be brainstormed regarding council's direction.

"Since council is a two-year term there will be a four-year time span to analyse trends," says Twining. "Challenge areas will be seen then they can be addressed."

Council will hold an open session once it compiles a list of new directives, Twining says.

It is stated in the constitution that council will "promote communication and consultation within the college community by providing an open forum for the discussion of significant college issues." Council deals with all areas relating to academics before they are implemented.

THE NIAGARA COLLEGE

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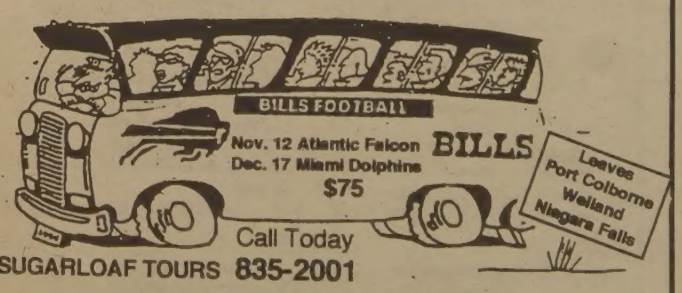

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Sale proceeds of the cookbook will be used to help the Needy Student Assistance Fund.

Make sure your recipe has your name on it and that it's legible.
Send recipes to:
Uta Haley, S210 or drop off in S210A, Welland campus.
Submissions deadline is September 26.
The Cookbook Committee

Come celebrate Niagara's cuisine

By SUSAN DERUITER
Staff Writer

The second annual Niagara Food Festival will be held on Merritt Island along the canal in downtown Welland, Saturday, Sept. 30 and Sunday, Oct. 1.

"This is a wonderful venue, a pastoral setting, in which families and individuals can sample the marvellous foods and wines from excellent restaurants and wineries throughout the region," said Tourism of Welland Niagara official Rick Woodward.

Over 25 restaurants and wineries are involved in an event that last year attracted 10,000 visitors.

"We forecasted an attendance of 2,500 when it was held last year at Market Square," said Woodward, "but the place was jammed and restaurants were running out of food — it was very successful."

This year the larger Merritt Island will easily accommodate the expected 20,000 visitors coming to sample the foods and wines of the region. From beef bourguignone, corn chowder, shark bites and souvlaki to the wines of Chateau Des Charmes, Andres, Hillebrand, Pilletteri and Vineland Estates there is something to tempt every palette.

Entrance and parking are free. For $1 you will receive one 'Bite Buck' towards the purchase of food or wine. Samplings range in price from one to five 'bucks'.

"The idea is to sample many things as we celebrate our diverse cuisine," explained Woodward.

Over 12 bands from the Niagara region will entertain during this weekend event. "We will have jazz, blues, latin, country line, an eclectic assortment," said Woodward.

Niagara College has been involved with the Food Festival from its inception. "It is nice that we have been able to create this liaison between college and community in a hands-on experience," said Woodward.

Students of the Law and Security Adminstrative program will be on site providing security and parking control directed by co-ordinator Heather Hodgson. Ambulance and Emergency Care program students, under Jim Fisher, will man a first-aid station on the grounds. Joanne Stubbins, reproduction equipment operator, in Print Centre has helped produce much of the promotional material.

"Patrick Hogan, manager, Food and Beverage Services in the School of Hospitality and Tourism, has played an instrumental role and has been a great resource person," said Woodward.

"Acquiring Zehrs as a presenting sponsor has been the key to being able to put this event on," said Woodward. Zehrs, a grocery store chain, operates two stores in the Niagara peninsula and has proposed the building of a third on Niagara Street in Welland. For their cash contribution, Zehrs has been offered food retail exclusivity and presentor status. On Zehrs' cooking stage many restaurants will showcase their culinary talents using President's Choice products. Zehrs's logo will appear on all marketing materials.

"We hope that our interaction and professional way the event is put on will continue as a long term partnership," said Woodward.

"Many local businesses have also offered cash or service in kind that has enabled Tourism of Welland Niagara to put on a $100,000 event for $30,000," said Woodward.

Gates open 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 30 until midnight and reopen Sunday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Butterflies' are home

By CELESTE DISTEFANO
Staff Writer

The Niagara Parks Commission (NPC) held a groundbreaking ceremony in Niagara Falls for its Butterfly Conservatory at the Botanical Gardens on Sept. 12.

"The purpose of the project is to extend an already too short tourist season in Niagara Falls," said George Bailey, NPC director of communications. The year-round exhibition will display a wide variety of butterflies from various countries.

The glass-enclosed 1,022 square-metre butterfly emporium features a network of pathways allowing 200 people to observe many species of butterflies flying around nectar-producing flowers like lantanas, pentas and passion. Information about butterflies and their natural habitats will be available to visitors.

The NPC will have a breeding area in the conservatory because most butterflies have a lifespan of up to 10 days.

"This will be a challenge," said Bailey, adding the NPC's goal is to have "at least" 2,000 butterflies at all times.

The 35,000 square-foot building will be built by Robertson Yates Corp. Ltd. (Ryco) of Hamilton, Ont. The $15-million project will be funded through revenues from the NPC's giftshops, attractions and parking lots.

Attending the ceremony were students and commissioners from the NPC.

"This is the largest butterfly conservatory of its kind in Canada, we think," said Bailey.

The conservatory will open late in 1996.

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Another Juno Award?

By WILL WEBSTER
Staff Writer

Last year's Juno Award winner for best First Nations' album returns with a strong lyrical album that's a must-listen for any Canadian concerned about this country.

From the opening song Born Again Pagan, to the closing Wapi's Reel, **Lawrence Martin** serves up one of the strongest political-social commentaries ever released in Canada.

The music has a strong country-western flavor. With the exception of the occasional native chanting, it offers little in the way of ground-breaking musicianship. It does, however, provide the listener with a clear picture of what's going on in the hearts and minds of First Nations people in this country.

In Born Again Pagan, Martin laments the destruction of his people's culture; *"There came a man in white, then came a man in black, then along came another, calling us brother, he wore red with a funny hat, calling us savages and calling us pagans, saving our souls from eternal damnation."*

Bringing the song full circle he proclaims; *"you destroy this land with your own hands, on mother earth we all belong, calling us savages, calling us pagans...putting us on the reservation, now guess what, I'm a born-again pagan."*

Martin echoes his people's desire for the open spaces and wilderness in which their culture was steeped. In Mushkeego he sings, *"Where the cold north wind blows, where the Northern lights shine bright, where the raging rivers flow, that's where I want to be tonight."*

For those who like the country western sound there are a few good instrumentals; Stuck in the Mud (a tribute to Sandy Lake), and Wapi's Reel, which features fiddle, mandolin, banjo and spoon players before it winds down into a First Nations' chant.

This is an excellent production and should earn Martin another Juno nomination. Give it four stars — for guts and sheer writing quality.

Molson Canadian Online

By RYAN BARBER
Staff Writer

Molson Breweries has become the first brewer in Canada on the Internet.

Molson I Am Online (HTTP://www.molson.com/Canadian) is an Internet service providing information and interaction, with seven main areas focusing on entertainment and sports.

This Internet service is geared toward young adults in Canada. Molson I Am Online provides Pub Chat, Soundbox, The Cooler, Hockey Net in Canada, The Word, Canadian Culture and Outer Limits.

"Molson always strives to be a leading company and electronic marketing is a new and effective way to connect with our customers and to build stronger consumer relationships over the long-term," said Blair Shier, vice-president, brand management, Molson Breweries, in a press release.

Users are able to access club and concert listings, CD reviews, music presentations, magazine articles, along with Canadian film, theatre, and art.

Internet usage has doubled every year since 1988, with more than two million Canadians already online. Molson's own research shows that usage of online services among young adults is growing rapidly.

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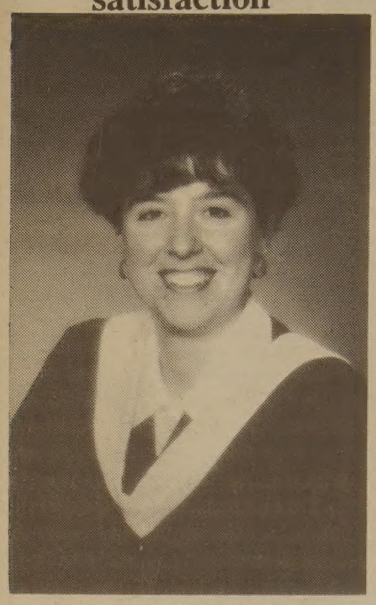

JOSIE SACCO

By RON CROWLEY
Staff Writer

Take a goal, combine with ambition, and presto — there's Josie Sacco of Niagara Falls, Ont.

"I knew what I wanted to get into, probably since I was little," says the 25-year-old Niagara College graduate. Helping children with learning difficulties was her quest.

Sacco says it wasn't until Grade 11, when her high school (Stamford) implemented a peer-tutoring program, that she began to see her future take shape.

The program was new to Stamford and "we were like guinea-pigs" to see if integration was possible. "I liked it."

In Grade 12, it became a co-op program enabling students to go out and work in the field of children with special needs. Sacco's first co-op landed her at the school she attended as a child, assisting Grade 3s.

During that time, one of the education assistants recommended she enrol in the Educational Resources and Special Needs (ERSN) program at Niagara College.

"The program was great," says Sacco. "It was the best." She added it could have been spread out over three years. ERSN is currently a two-year program.

She learned sign language, pharmacology, nursing and other valuable skills while at Niagara and works at the McRae Street Group Home where she began her co-op placement.

She continued working after graduating in 1990, then applied to Brock University in St. Catharines to further her education in Childhood Studies.

"I worked part time on weekends and attended school full time at Brock," says Sacco. During her third and final year at Brock, she applied to the Lincoln County Catholic School Board and was hired while completing her bachelor's degree (BA) in 1993.

"I worked mornings at St. Michael's in Niagara-on-the-Lake and went to school in the evening to finish my degree," she says.

Completing her studies in June 1993, she continued working at St. Michael's. "The timing was perfect," says Sacco.

She worked there for about a year when budget restraints forced her to split her services between two schools. Now she works at St. Vincent DePaul in the morning and St. Michael's in the afternoon.

"At St. Vincent, I work with Ian, a six-year-old down syndrome child," says Sacco, assisting him in his day-to-day student functions.

At St. Michael's there is no "special needs" student in the Grade 4 class. Sacco works with "resource kids" (children who learn at a slower pace).

Sacco is also involved with the student council at St. Michael's, assisting with events and other school activities.

She laughed when asked about the mental strain of her work. "To me, it's everything in life I always wanted to do. For somebody looking in, it looks physically and mentally draining but I love to do it and I think when you love your job, you put those things aside," says Sacco.

Separating her employment from her home life has been the key in keeping her stress to a minimum.

She's accomplished a great deal in her 25 years. Sacco says being an average student and the thought of going on to College from high school is scary, but it "gave me the confidence to go further."

Her next step in life? Teacher's College, she says. "I want that teacher thing."

Patience over practice leads to art 'work'

By JENNIFER TURNER
Staff Writer

Moments earlier he had peacefully strummed on a guitar. Now, the Niagara College alumnus was excitedly, but seriously, chatting about art.

"I've been drawing since I was a little kid, drawing all the time," said Rob Banfield, 21, an April 1995 graduate of the Visual Creative Art/Design program at Niagara College.

The two-year program touches on the different graphic design trades.

"It basically shows you all the skills you need," said Banfield, sitting in the cluttered bedroom of his bungalow home at 40 Wiley St. in St. Catharines.

He said he liked the life drawing studies because the class had three hours to draw anything they wanted.

Three months after graduation he became a manual printer at Calhoun's on Bunting Road in St. Catharines.

"I do silk-screening. It's the art of using stencils. Just pushing the ink through a mesh screen onto whatever the substrate - whether paper, fabric, wood, really anything," said the St. Catharines resident looking out from behind glasses.

Banfield continues his art studies in his spare time.

"I'll either draw. Usually I'll mess around on the computer trying to learn more about the computer programs that I used at college. There are so many more things we can do that we didn't," he said his dark hair pulled back into a pony-tail.

Banfield doesn't pause when asked about future plans.

"I'd like to own my own silk-screening or tie-dyeing store," said Banfield, who also graduated from St. Catharines Collegiate Institute and Vocational School where he took a co-op placement at Visualtech Signs Inc.

He suggests showing some of his work.

"I can show you some slides. I did that," he said proudly, pointing to a framed picture of a guitar with an abstract background hanging on the wall.

Banfield suddenly remembers something he did, but decides against showing it. Finally not being able to resist, he leaves the room and returns. Soon he reveals a 3D picture. It looks as if it were carved from wood but was actually "water-colored paper."

"You know the lining for the fridge that goes around the door? Well, there's this sticky tape stuff. I just piled it up to get different levels," Banfield said while demonstrating different shadows with a lamp.

In a few minutes he sketches a quick picture with pastels. He said he made business cards for his mother, Karen Williams' home hairstyling salon, Karen's Hairstyling.

What does it take to be an artist?

"A lot of patience and practice," he said. "And the ability to criticize yourself. I think you have to be critical."

New Centre to ring in a new school year

By RON CROWLEY
Staff Writer

It's official!

Opening ceremonies were held Wednesday for the Early Childhood Centre.

With only "a few minor details to clear up," said Sandy Fox, manager of Niagara College's Ancillary Services, the childhood centre is up and running.

Ancillary Services is responsible for the Early Childhood Centre, the Campus Store, the Print Centre, parking, food services and college/student insurance.

Festivities began at 2 p.m., with speeches from dignitaries and those involved in various stages of the project's development.

The 8,900-square-foot Early Childhood Centre, at the southeast corner of Niagara College's Welland campus, was completed within the forecasted $1.2 million.

"The project has been done within budget," said Warren Yule, who is project manager of the master plan. It was Fox's responsibility to provide Yule details necessary to facilitate the new centre.

'The project has been done within budget'

— Warren Yule

Attending meetings and establishing committees was part of the lenghty process for Fox.

To move the project forward, a capital proposal was submitted to the provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services, as part of the jobsOntario program.

"It outlined everything needed to provide the necessary services and support a lab school environment," said Fox.

The initial plan was to increase by 15 toddlers and three infants, creating the need for additional staff. "At this point that's on hold," said Fox, adding there are ongoing meetings with the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The new day-care centre is in full swing. Staff and equipment actually moved in during the summer. The official opening was Sept. 20.

Photo by Ron Crowley

IMAGES

NIGHT CLUB

'Live and Kickin'

POOL TABLES

D.J.

LIVE BANDS

BIG SCREEN

FOOZEBALL

SEPTEMBER

734-1633

THURS 21
ICE

FRIDAY 22
VITALOGY
"a tribute to Pearl Jam"

SATURDAY 23
ORACLE

THURS 28
MARBLE WEED

FRIDAY 29
OUTBACKS

SATURDAY 30
RUST NEVER SLEEPS
"a Neil Young tribute"

SPECIAL FEATURES:

SUNDAY SEPT. 24: *COMEDY OUTLAWS* " CANADA'S BEST COMEDY SHOW"
THURSDAY OCT. 5: *INTERNATIONAL MEN* for **LADIES ONLY** the hottest male dance show in North America!!!!

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

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YOUR OFF-CAMPUS PARTY SPOT
PRIZES
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SPECIALS
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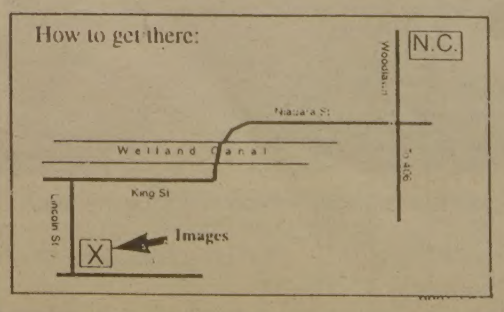
OFF - CAMPUS

WHY LEAVE TOWN?



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NIAGARA COLLEGE
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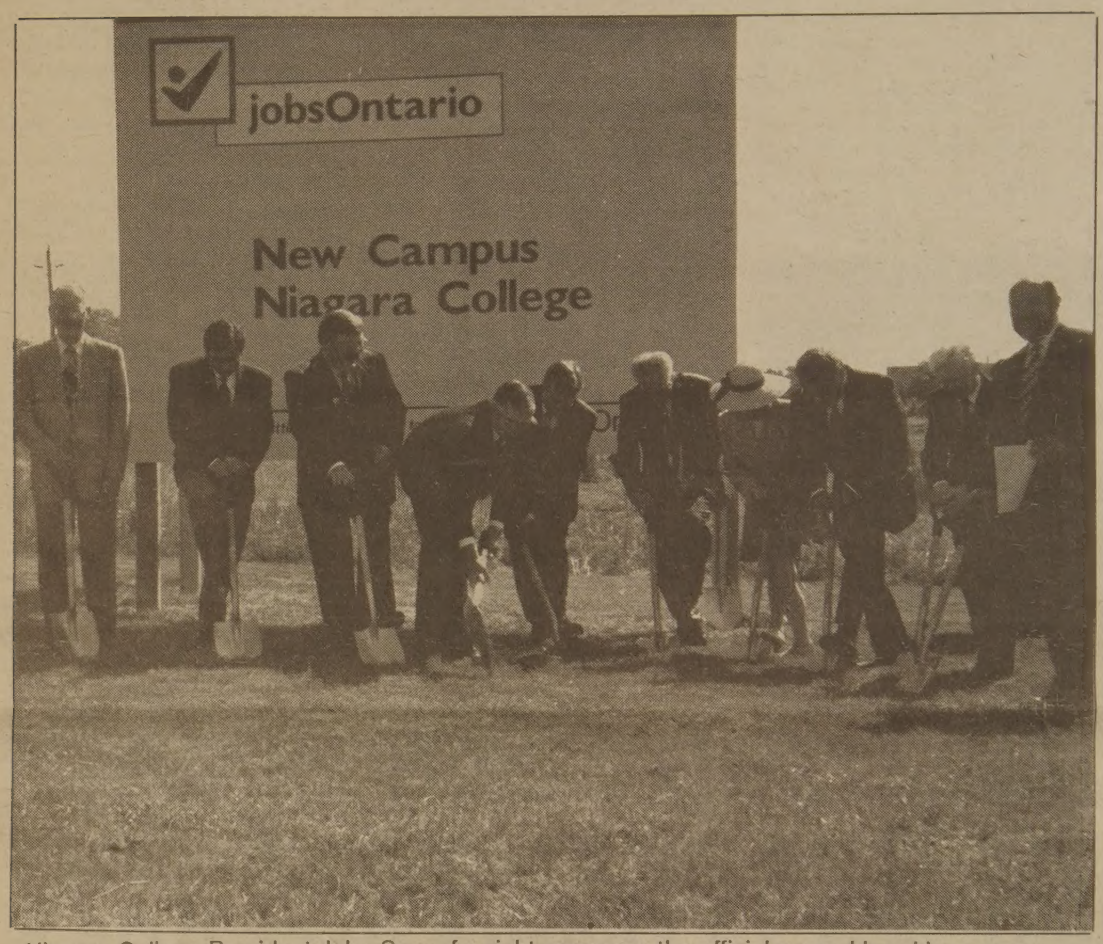
NIAGARA NEWS

Summer Supplement

Second Section Sept. 22, 1995

New Glendale campus to open September 1997



Niagara College President John Saso, far right, oversees the official ground-breaking ceremony at the new Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake on June 13.

Photo by Stephanie Turton

By LAURY REID
Staff Writer

The next century is approaching, and with it comes a number of changes for Niagara College.

The ground-breaking ceremony for the new Glendale campus took place June 13 at the White Oaks Inn and Racquet Club in St. Catharines.

John Saso, Niagara College president, said he realized the college could no longer continue leasing one building after another to accommodate new programs.

The new campus, which will cost about $33.4 million, will be three floors above ground level and one floor below.

The 20-hectare (50-acre) campus, near the Foster Wheeler building and White Oaks Inn and Racquet Club, will house the School of Business and Entrepreneurship, the Centre of Specialization in Health Sciences, and the School of Environment, Horticulture and Agribusiness.

Continuing Education courses and real estate courses from the Ontario Real Estate Association will also be offered.

Gymnasium facilities, a cafeteria, learning resource centre, campus store and study or meeting areas will be available for students.

The new campus will hold 1,300 students initially, with the maximum capacity of 1,700 students.

> New campus will house School of Business and Entrepreneurship, Centre of Specialization in Health Sciences, School of Environment, Horticulture and Agribusiness.

Construction is set to begin in November, and the campus is scheduled to open in September 1997.

The Welland campus is set to undergo a major facelift as well.

A new front entrance containing the Registrar's office, Admissions, Counselling, Financial Aid, and Special Needs will be built to face the corner of Woodlawn Road and First Avenue.

A new cafeteria and meeting place will be built next to the Learning Resource Centre (LRC). The LRC will get a new entrance, a fibre optic network and brighter, energy-efficient lighting.

The Technology, Skills and Customized Training School will open in a 3,600-square-metre (40,000-square-foot) building now under construction behind the Black Walnut Building.

Nursing programs will move to the Welland campus from the Mack School of Nursing in St. Catharines.

Studios for the Broadcast-Radio, Television and Film program will be updated.

The 85-place day-care centre under construction is scheduled to open this month.

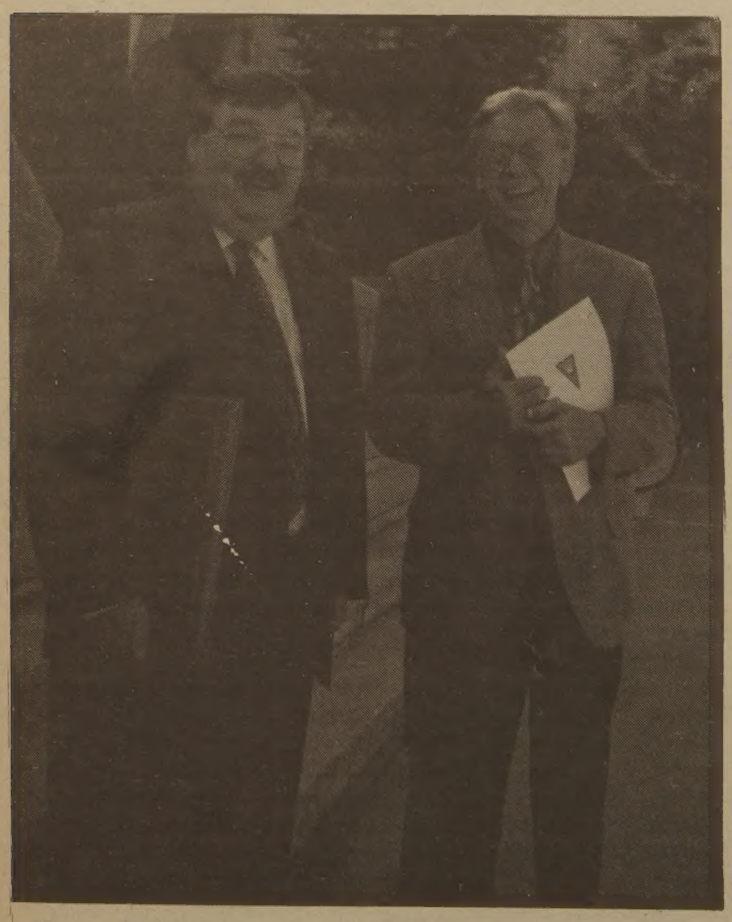
Student residence facilities are being planned for both campuses.

These renovations and upgrades at the Welland campus will cost about $10.3 million.

On April 8, 1994, former Ontario premier Bob Rae announced a $32-million capital grant to Niagara College. The college received another $5.7 million from the sale of the St. Catharines campus, lease savings, and college ancillary programs, leaving $6 million to be raised by the fund-raising campaign called **Niagara: The Next Century**.

"I encourage everyone to get on the Niagara College band wagon and give your enthusiastic support," Norris Walker, president of Walker Brothers Quarries of Thorold and co-chair of the campaign, said at the ground-breaking ceremony.

The campaign had received $3 million in pledges as of late June.



Niagara Regional Chair Brian Merrett, left, speaks with Ed Arnold after the ground-breaking ceremonies.

Photo by Stephanie Turton

More opportunities for local students

> 'It is very exciting to see Niagara College growing as quickly as it is'
> — Mayor Neal Schoen

By STEPHANIE TURTON
Staff Writer

Niagara College broke ground in June for its new Glendale campus after donations totalling more than $3 million were announced.

"This has been a very gratifying experience," said Lawrence Naftulin, chief executive officer and vice-chair of the Niagara College Foundation.

Naftulin, fundraising drive organizer, said the support from the public "is indicative of the very high degree of regard the Niagara Peninsula has for Niagara College" and what it offers.

Regional Councillor Stan Brickell, of St. Catharines, said the new campus is "for the benefit of the region."

"My son is a graduate of Niagara College," said Brickell. "I have a great deal of admiration for the college."

"It is very exciting to see Niagara College growing as quickly as it is," said Port Colborne Mayor Neal Schoen.

He said the Glendale campus will mean "more opportunities for local students who can't afford to go away to school."

"It is a great day for the college," said Wainfleet Mayor Stan Pettit and Niagara Regional Chairman Brian Merrett.

"It's great to see the project underway," said Merrett.

Roseanne Morissette, of St. Catharines, a member of the college's Board of Governors, said the ground-breaking ceremony held at White Oaks Inn and Racquet Club on June 13 was "well planned" and "wonderfully orchestrated."

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Sailors swamp Niagara College's Sailing School

Ready to Sail!

One of Niagara College's sailing instructors takes first-time sailors on the waters of Lake Ontario in July.

Photo by Samantha Goldwin

By SAMANTHA GOLDWIN
Staff Writer

All boats were "a sail" for Niagara College's Sailing School's open house on July 2.

"The morning started off slow, but it has really picked up, if people came right now they'd be sitting in our lawn chairs waiting for a boat to come in," said Shirley Tomovic, development officer for the Continuing Education, Ventures program at the college.

Open from May through October, the sailing school and classroom is located in the Lighthouse on the east pier of Port Dalhousie Harbor (former Michigan area) in St. Catharines.

The college sailing school offers keelboat sailing instruction and a variety of other leisure sailing and boating activities.

"I'm glad we saw this announced in the paper, it gives us a chance to see how hard and how much work there is involved in sailing a large boat," said Diane Morris, 48, of 5 Blue Spruce Crt. in St. Catharines. She came to the harbor with her husband and daughter to enjoy a day on the sailboats.

Keelboat sailing instruction and leisure activities are provided aboard SHARK 24s, one of Canada's most popular "one design" keelboat.

Sailing instruction personnel are Canadian Yachting Association (C.Y.A.) certified instructors with proven teaching skills and sailing experience.

Tomovic said Niagara College is a member of the Ontario Sailing Association (O.S.A.), C.Y.A., and the American Sailing Association (A.S.A.), and is qualified to test toward certification within any of these associations.

Courses are open to the public with special course offerings to youth ages 12 to 17 years.

College and high school students can earn two credits toward a college diploma through the successful completion of the 27-hour learn-to-sail course entitled, Sailing: Basic Keelboat Cruising.

In addition to hands-on training aboard the sailing crafts, graduates of the C.Y.A. program become eligible to join the Niagara College Sailing Club where they can use the boats for personal leisure sailing along with a partner.

"It's nice to see this number of people out for our open house," said Tomovic. "I hope it will bring in registrations for our courses being offered. Our open house from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., also let the eager sailors know that we're here."

For information, contact the Niagara College Sailing School at (905) 735-2211, Ext. 7521.

Participants walk their way to victory over Brock

A fire drill, fresh air and one lap around the track

By SAMANTHA GOLDWIN
Staff Writer

Niagara College defeated Brock University by a four per cent margin in the annual health Participaction Day Challenge held June 14.

The event was introduced last year by Niagara College's and Brock University's Professional Development Recreational Committees.

"We lost last year, partly due to not enough publicity and a poor turnout for the college," said Peter Manning, a college committee member.

He said Brock defeated Niagara last year with a participation of 73 per cent and 11 per cent here.

This year the college committee decided to publicize the health activity event by announcing a fire drill for 11 a.m. on June 14.

"These two (events) combined allowed us to get everyone out of the building and participating in our one lap around the track," said Manning.

Niagara President John Saso led the walk around the track. There were about 400 staff members, students and day-care children participating in the 15-minute activity.

Committee members counted the number of participants and tallied up the percentages.

Niagara College defeated Brock's challenge by a four per cent margin. The college had 82 per cent, while Brock turned out 78 per cent.

Niagara College staff, students and day-care children made one lap around the track for the second annual health Participaction Challenge during June.

Photo by Tanya Bryan

SUMMER STUDENTS WHO SACRIFICE

Nursing student wants to help people

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

As a future nurse, this young woman has found the right outlet for her easygoing and caring nature.

"I've always wanted to help people," said blonde, blue-eyed Monique Ten Den, 21, of St. Catharines.

"I wanted to be a social worker first so I did a co-op (high school job placement) in social work but I didn't like it ... it was just too hard and you have to turn people away all the time."

The idea of nursing was in her mind but "I was afraid of taking Grade 11 biology," a required class.

At 17, Ten Den found herself in the hospital — as a patient. She had been in a car accident and had fractured her pelvis. She would be there for six weeks and being flat on her back for four of them was "no fun" for the tall, sturdy, energetic teen.

However, being in the hospital so long gave her the opportunity to watch the nurses in action.

This could be "a good profession, helping people and just making them feel good," Ten Den said.

"In nursing, you see the results, you see people heal and get better."

After graduating from Denis Morris High School in St. Catharines, she applied to nursing school but wasn't accepted because "my chemistry mark sucked."

Determined not to let this setback stop her, Ten Den applied to and was accepted into the Health Science Preparatory program at Niagara College in Welland.

Taking more classes in biology, chemistry, and psychology and doing lab work would give her an advantage when applying again to nursing.

The next year, she became a student in Niagara College's three-year Nursing program.

'I should do it myself, I know. I can't expect other people to help me build my confidence. I need to do it myself.' Monique Ten Den

Ten Den is entering her third year in September and looking forward to spending more time in a hospital. She will be working in pediatrics, obstetrics (maturnity) and the psychiatric ward.

She said it's sometimes difficult to work in a hospital. You want to be kind, caring and compassionate but there are rules and regulations to follow that can make this difficult.

Ten Den sees herself as a caring, fun and good person.

She can be spontaneous, hyper and energetic one moment and shy, quiet and a "couch potato" the next.

Compliments are something she needs to build her self-esteem.

"I should do it myself, I know. I can't expect other people to help me build my confidence. I need to do it myself."

Her friends and family are the most important people in her life. They are "a part of me."

She has a "very, very large family" and they all live in Holland. She has 38 aunts and uncles and at least 50 cousins.

She's been to Holland four times and the moments with them are her "most precious memories."

When she was in the hospital after the accident, she realized just how much she needed her friends.

"There was one day no one came to visit me and I was so lonely. I hated that."

Shared interests, a sense of humor, loyalty and honesty are traits Ten Den looks for in her friends. She likes being with people who are "young at heart."

"Sometimes, I don't like feeling like a 20-year-old."

Another important part of her life is her faith.

She's grown up in a religious family and finds comfort in talking to God, she said.

"Before I go into the hospital (to work), I'll say, 'Help me to be a compassionate and kind person to these people.'"

Ten Den said she feels like a hypocrite sometimes, that she doesn't always live by her beliefs.

"I try to live like a Catholic. I'm human, I know I make mistakes ... I'm supposed to pray and try to get closer to God but I don't always do that."

When she's not busy with her school work and obligations, she said she likes to listen to music and to sing — interests she received from her parents.

"I love singing. I love listening to music. Music is a part of my life.

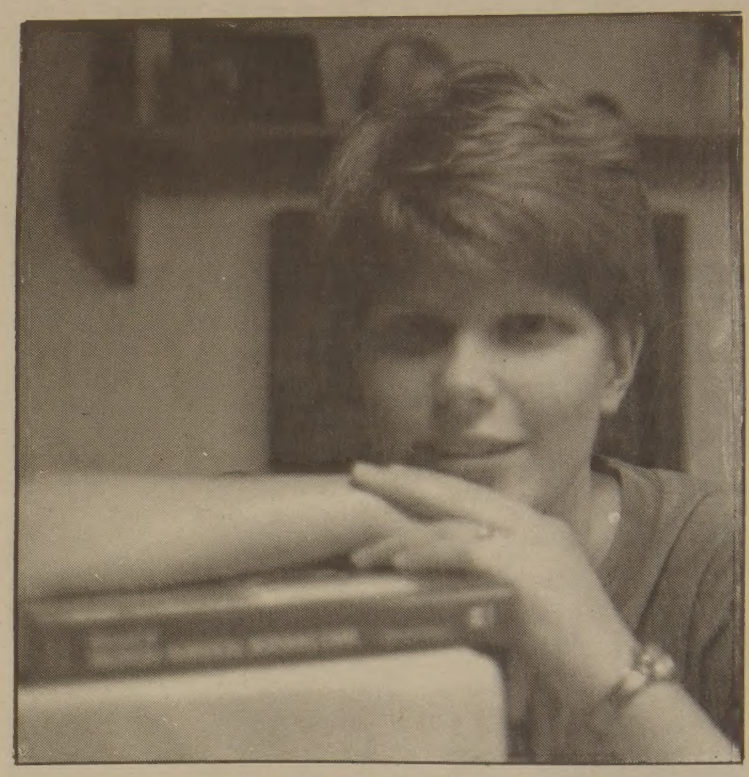
"If I don't have music sometime during the day, I feel like I'm missing something ... I need to hear it," said Ten Den, adding New Age is one of her favorite styles.

Because there are generally no lyrics, Ten Den said you can interpret the songs any way you wish; you can decide what they mean for you.

Collecting information on her favorite athlete is another of her interests.

Kurt Browning, 29, is a four-time Canadian and World Champion in men's figure skating. He is the recipient of many medals and awards, as well as the love and devotion of his fans.

"He's my role model because he's a very down to earth Canadian and he's very proud of his country like I am."



Monique Ten Den and her armrest — thick nursing textbooks.
Photo by Debbie Cunningham

She said he inspires her by his accomplishments. He overcame a serious back injury to become a popular professional skater.

She doesn't have any plans for the future.

"Some people plan their future but I have absolutely no idea."

She hopes to graduate next year but has no specific job in mind.

Working as a nurse in a foreign country is something she would like to do, possibly Africa or India, to help the sick.

"In high school, I thought of being a missionary."

Niagara summer courses are hot and 'appealling'

By NANCY KIMSEY
Staff Writer

As the need for higher education increases, so does the list of students taking courses that run through the summer months at Niagara College.

The reasons for taking summer courses are as varied as the programs offered.

Some students take summer courses to pick up subjects they missed in the previous term or to lighten their course load for the upcoming fall term.

Others go into January-Start programs because they can graduate in a shorter time or the course they wanted was full in September.

Full-time programs that offered a January-Start for the 1994-95 school year included General Arts and Science, Horticultural Technician (Co-op), Journalism-Print, Law and Security Administration, Nursing, and Recreation Leadership.

"It's an accelerated program. You're going to be finished earlier," said Brenda Larouche, admissions and financial aid clerk.

Dave Ruigrok, 19, of Welland, is a student in the Human Relations program. He said he couldn't get into that program in September so he took General Arts and Science as a stepping stone in his studies.

He said it doesn't bother him being at school while his friends are on vacation or at the beach.

"I like it here. It gives me something to do. Otherwise I'd be lying around my girlfriend's apartment," said Ruigrok.

He said he likes the three-month summer term better than the regular four-month terms.

Ruigrok said teachers and students are "on the whole, more relaxed."

'Being able to do a two-year course in a year and a half is appealling at my age.' Richard Bourdeau, 35,

He said people are easier to approach because they aren't in their "little cliques."

He did have one complaint, however. He said it "sucked" that they closed the sub shop for the summer.

Jennifer Noiles, 23, of Welland, finished her course on June 28. She was in the Dental Hygiene program.

Noiles said she felt "very good" about finishing her program but that she wouldn't be relaxed until she knew her licence was in her hand.

She said she felt "kind of sad" to be leaving Niagara College.

She said she will miss the other students and instructors that she spent "lots of hours together" with since starting in September.

Richard Bourdeau, 35, of Welland, is a first-year student in the Recreation Leadership program.

He said he found the January-Start program appealing because of the time factor involved.

"Being able to do a two-year course in a year and a half is appealing at my age," said Bourdeau.

Asked how he liked the shortened summer term as compared to the first full-length term in January, Bourdeau said he found the "general atmosphere one of indifference."

"I think delivery of curriculum suffers in a shorter time period. It puts a strain on students and faculty alike. It doesn't bother me personally but many others use it as an excuse," said Bourdeau.

The things he said did bother him were: not being made aware of available resources - such as evening passes for the computer lab - earlier in the term, the apparent lack of SAC activities in the summer term, and no access to the gym for two weeks while the floor was being refinished.

"Why did they strip the gym floor now - not in the six-week period when no one is here?" asked Bourdeau.

850 Niagara students receive diplomas

By RON WOLF
Staff Writer

Niagara College celebrated its 28th convocation from June 13 to 15 with about 850 students receiving diplomas.

The graduation celebrations were held at Centennial Secondary School on Thorold Road in Welland.

Niagara College President John Saso said graduation ceremonies are "never stressful."

Graduations are the "best things" that happen, he said, adding awards of excellence and other related awards are the "best part" of the year.

It's the "exact opposite of stress," he said.

Saso's message to the graduates is similar every year. He challenges the students to be "the very best" they can be. If they do their best they will succeed, if they don't their chances of success "will greatly demise," he said, adding he still has students call and talk to him from when he was a teacher years ago.

"The ones from Niagara College seem to do very well."

Saso said he has met former Niagara students in Disneyland and in Hong Kong. "They're all over the place."

This is the first year convocation ceremonies have been held on weeknights, said Alan Vaughan, Niagara College registrar.

"We got very positive feedback on the decision to go to weeknights as opposed to Saturday in the past," said Vaughan.

"We got lucky on the weather that it wasn't in the heat wave. All speakers were excellent and it was nice to see the president going out of his way to personalize each student," said Vaughan.

On June 15, about 300 students graduated from 18 programs, including Journalism-Print, Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film and Mechanical Engineering Technology.

On June 13, about 240 students graduated from 22 programs including Business-Accounting and Financial Management and on June 14, about 305 students graduated from nine programs.

David Schleich, the college's vice-president academic, gave a speech on June 15 about how "it's a confusing world" and that it can change at any time.

His speech was directed to the students that they can learn something about life through their parents and grandparents.

In closing, he told the graduating class of '95 to "keep learning," go find a job and "pay some income tax."

Mike Mucaki, 23, from Windsor, Ont., who graduated from the Journalism-Print program on June 15, said the course was well worth his time.

"It (the Journalism-Print program) did what I was looking for. It came in handy in the real world."

Mucaki works part time at The Tribune in Welland as a news reporter, mostly covering local sports.

Mucaki would like to see himself as "the editor of a newspaper" in the future.

"It's been five years of different programs. I'm ecstatic," said Mucaki.

"Niagara College accepted me right away. I applied late in the year so I was 25th on the waiting list at St. Clair College (in Windsor)," said Mucaki on why he chose Niagara.

Ted Mucaki, Mike's father, said he's "very proud of him, what he's doing lately and what he's doing is OK."

Aaron Reeves, 29, from Fenwick, Ont., a graduate of the Mechanical Engineering Technology program, said he feels "relieved."

He said it has been a long four years for him. Although he isn't working in his chosen profession, his future goal is to be self employed.

Reeves said the course is "hard, stick to it, face it head on."

Sylvia Reeves, Aaron's mother, said she's "very, very proud of him. I'm deeply moved and it was quite an achievement for him."

He stayed out of school for a few years; it's not as easy as it sounds (returning to school), said Reeves.

Jay Tipping, 21, a graduate from Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film, said he felt "relieved and sweaty."

Although Tipping isn't working in the film industry, he would like to some day.

In giving advice to future film students, he told them to "be devoted, have a passion, and learn new things."

During the three convocation ceremonies, Terry Dyson and Allen Spencer played the Scottish bagpipes.

The graduation celebration ended with the singing of O Canada.

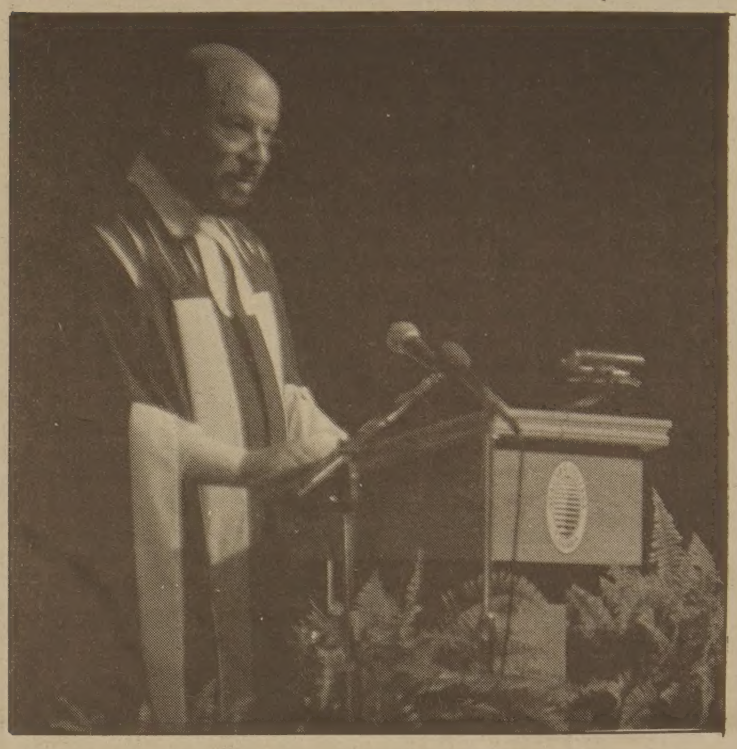
A reception for parents and guests was held at After Hours.

Carol Boettcher, the college's vice-president of student life and human resources, said in an interview she was "very pleased" with the graduation ceremonies.

"Speakers were excellent and it was good that it wasn't in the middle of the heat wave," she said.

The future of graduation night for Niagara College might be different in two years when the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake opens.

Boettcher said the ceremonies "might" be held outside at the new facility. Still, all graduates won't be able to attend at once.



Niagara College President John Saso gives his speech to the graduating class of '95 in early June.

Photo by Ron Wolf

Contributions of 'marvellous role model' honored

By RON WOLF
Staff Writer

Niagara College President John Saso accepted a $3,000 cheque for a memorial lecture hall at the new Niagara-on-the-Lake campus.

The June 23 donation honors Lynda-Ann Coakley, a 1980 graduate of the Dental Hygiene program, who died Dec. 29, 1990.

Marie Lochhead, president, and Joanne Baranek-Fior, treasurer, from the Niagara Dental Hygienists' Component Society (NDHCS), made the presentation to Saso.

The non-profit NDHCS has raised more than $14,000, but its goal is to raise $30,000 for the new lecture hall by 1996.

The $14,900 raised will go towards the Lynda-Ann Coakley lecture hall when the Glendale College opens in 1996.

There will be no on going projects after this said Doreen Sullivan, the public relations spokesperson for NDHCS.

"Lynda is a marvellous role model for anyone," said Saso. "She represents something you should strive for."

Students and faculty of the Dental Hygenist program, who raised the money through fundraisers and seminars, held a luncheon in the Tecumseh Lounge to honor Coakley's contributions to the profession and communities in which she lived before she died from ovarian cancer at the age of 31.

In 1985, Coakley graduated from dental hygiene studies at Georgian College in Barrie, then worked with the developmentally handicapped in Orillia.

She was active as a St. Catharines Curling Club member, coached Little League girls soccer for several years, and was a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instructor trainer at Niagara College.

On Dec. 11, 1990, Coakley received her diploma in gerontology-multidiscipline during a special graduation ceremony at her St. Catharines home, 18 days before her death.

She had encouraged other dental hygienists to take the gerontology-multidiscipline course. These courses are now part of the curriculum because of her influence.

The June 23 annual luncheon was attended by 34 students, which followed the completion of their Ontario licencing written examinations.

Program student Kim Hutton, 22, of Markdale, said she felt "relieved" after the written test. The second licencing test, involving patients, was held June 26 and 27 at the college.

Program student Mara Pellegrino, 25, of Hamilton, said she came to Niagara College because it was the closest college for her course.

Pellegrino said it was a "fair test" and she was "fully prepared."

She said a job is waiting for her for six months when she graduates to replace a woman on maternity leave in Hamilton.

Saso said he's "very impressed" with the students. Considering the test they just had, "they're in high spirits and that's terrific."

Sullivan said it was nice to see the support of the administration.

Catherine Bain, a graduate, received the Golden Scaler award for the highest grade average from Dr. Edward Henderson, a dental consultant at Niagara College.

Day-care centre will open in September

By CELESTE DISTEFANO
Staff Writer

Despite the summer heat and humidity, work on Niagara College's new $1.2 million day-care centre has continued with no major problems.

"The day-care centre seems to be moving on schedule," said Sandy Fox, Niagara College's manager of ancillary services administration.

The 8,900-square-foot building was designed by the Hamilton-based achitectural firm of Moffat, Kinoshita, Associates Incorporated.

Fox said the new day-care centre is being built because the old one was in "constant" need of repairs.

"It's very exciting to see the project nearing completion," she said.

The new centre will increase the number of children to 85. There will be 10 infants, 35 toddlers, and 40 preschool children. The number of the child-care workers will also increase by four in the centre. The day-care staff is one for every three infants, one for every five toddlers and one for every eight preschool children.

The day care will be adding new activities for the children. Some of the new activities will include a Lego pit, bike track and built-in water play tables which makes it "safer" for the children. The centre will have a safe "drop off" and "pick up" area provided in the front for parents.

Fox said the new day care will also be adding a new fridge and stove which "we're in desperate need of."

The funding for the day care came through Jobs Ontario Capital Funding from the provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The day care not only benefits the parents going to Niagara College, but the people in Welland, said Fox, adding the day care is for anyone who needs care for their children.

The day care is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday and closes for "only" two weeks in July.

Parents who want to enrol their children should call Pat Eversden, the centre's manager.

"We're planning to move in the first part of August," said Fox. "We hope to be operating in full capacity by September."

PERSPECTIVES

Would you pay for something you don't use?

'This really angers me'

By JENNIFER TURNER
Staff Writer

Here I am trying to put together $840 for my tuition for my second year in college. I no longer want the help of financial aid — Ontario Student Assistance Program — because I already owe them thousands of dollars. I don't wish to owe them anymore.

I visited the cashier office and they broke down the $1,660 for my tuition (the $840 is for only the first term of my second year and an instalment for the second term). I was informed that $131 of that $1,660 goes to the Student Administrative Council (SAC).

This really angers me. I asked myself, what is SAC? I consulted my student handbook and turned to page 4. I discovered SAC is the governing and legislative body of all students in diploma and certificate full-time day programs.

It is responsible for athletic and extra-curricular, social and academic functions such as peer tutoring, peer advising, grad books and provision of the yearly student handbook.

Well, let me see. I have never gone to an athletic event or taken part in any extra-curricular activity.

I arrive at school for my first class of the day and I leave the school as soon as the last class ends.

Do I not get a choice as to whether I want to take part in these school events? It doesn't look like it. I also have never had anything to do with peer tutoring or advising.

Since this will be my graduating year the fee for gradbooks makes sense. But who says I want one? I'm sure not everyone does.

My student handbook is right here beside me. Thank you, SAC for the handbook. Too bad it cost me $131. Next time you can keep the book.

In search of food

By LAURY REID
Staff Writer

The students of the 1995 summer session.

A bunch of grumbling, moody, whining adults sick to death of Niagara College and everything that goes with it.

And who can blame them? They are not surrounded by the chatter of fellow students. Rather, their ears throb from the construction taking place in the halls, and their heads ache from trying to hear their professors above the racket.

With the absence of the noises of construction comes the echo of their footsteps in the halls, and the eerie, surrealistic feeling that they are the only souls on earth foolish enough to be attending school in the summertime.

They gaze longingly outside at the sunshine as goosebumps ripple their flesh from the cold, dead air inside the school.

They panic when unable to find their professors who are smart enough to leave the school when they don't have classes.

Their hearts fall when they enter the mini-caf in hopes of a half-decent meal, and set their eyes on the minimum variety available to them. No pizza, no soup, no chili. They can't go to the Mr. Sub in the school — it's closed. The cafeteria in the Black Walnut Building — closed.

They count down the days to freedom as a convict would with the approach of parole.

When they finally acquire freedom, it will be short lived, as they will have to return after a mere month for the September session.

But at least then the halls will be filled with students, the classrooms will be filled with professors, the pub will be filled with laughter, and the cafeteria, mini-caf, and Mr. Sub will be filled with food.

Is your purpose greater than mine?

A little consideration goes a long way

By TANYA BRYAN
Staff Writer

Rude people are everywhere. They're at the movies, concerts, shopping malls, and grocery stores making life difficult for everyone around them.

In a world where everyone's in a hurry, it's tough not to get pushed around a bit. But that's no excuse for stepping on, hitting, or slamming into someone without so much as an apologetic look or a simple "I'm sorry."

At the movies, I always seem to get stuck behind someone tall, or someone with a big head or big hair. It's a hassle to crane my neck around the obstruction, and changing seats isn't possible when you're in a packed cinema.

At music performances, rude people don't seem to notice when their voices are too loud during a quiet song, or when they're standing directly in front of your line of vision.

When this is pointed out to them in a polite manner, they become even more obnoxious by arguing that they have as much right to be there as you do. Yes, they do, but does it have to be that exact spot? A shift of feet or a shoulder can make a big difference. I paid the same money to be there, shouldn't I be able to see more than the back of someone's head?

Whenever I go shopping, there are always people who believe their purposes are more important than mine. They shove you, push their way up to the front, and generally make a nuisance of themselves because they're paying with personal cheques that can't be verified or with $23 in pennies.

I did not leave my house to deal with this rudeness. I just wanted to be entertained, or to get my errands done.

I'm not saying everyone is impolite. Most people aren't. It's the ignorant few who can ruin a mundane task or exciting experience for others.

A little consideration goes a long way.

Death hard to comfort

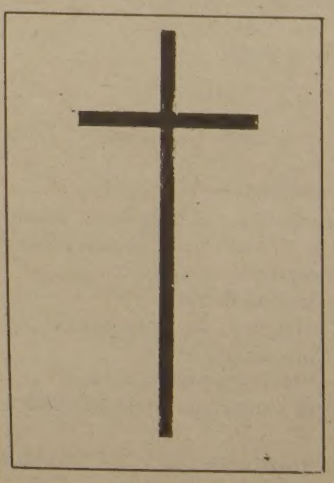
By SAMANTHA GOLDWIN
Staff Writer

The death of a loved one. I've never realized how hard it is to comfort someone who has just lost someone to death.

What do you say? How do you comfort them? Do you give them space or do you hound them to see if they're all right?

These are all worries I had back in July. My best friend lost her mother to cancer on July 1.

The week after her mom's death was the hardest time for my friend. I saw her in so much pain, not like a cut or scrape, but a hurt that comes from down deep in a person's soul.



The only thing I could do for my friend was to be funny. I made jokes. I told her of our memories of laughter and enjoyment.

We remembered all the times her mother helped us, stuck by us, and made us laugh.

For my friend, she thanked me for seeing her through this painful time. She said my humor made her look at her mom's death as a celebration of a new life.

For myself, I have realized that when someone dies they may be gone physically, but mentally and emotionally you'll never lose that person's spirit and way of life.

I can't imagine losing a loved one, but I do feel for those who have.

For all those who have lost a loved one, try looking for the laughter, and spirit that that person shared with those around them while on this earth.

MONEY MATTERS

Fundraising reaches 50 per cent of goal

NIAGARA THE NEXT CENTURY

By LAURY REID
Staff Writer

The Niagara College fund-raising campaign reached 50 per cent of its $6 million goal by the end of June.

The $3 million in pledges was announced by Paul Leon, chair of the Niagara College Foundation and co-chair of Niagara: The Next Century capital campaign, at the ground-breaking ceremony for the new Glendale Avenue campus on June 13.

Lawrence Naftulin, vice-chair and chief executive officer of the Niagara College Foundation, said six per cent of the Niagara Peninsula's population attends Niagara College.

"That's why we're here — to celebrate the dawn of a new era here at Niagara College," Naftulin said at the ground-breaking ceremony.

Norris Walker, president of Walker Brothers Quarries of Thorold and co-chair of the campaign, made a five-year pledge of $500,000. He said it was the first time his company had supported Niagara College financially.

"Old people like me can actually go back and learn something," Walker said at the ceremony.

The average student age at the college is 28.

Here is a list of donors as of June 13.

$500,000 Walker Brothers Quarries, Thorold
$500,000 Anonymous

$300,000 QUNO Corporation, St. Catharines

$100,000
Canadian Tire Acceptance Ltd., Welland
GenCorp Corporation, Welland
Mori Nurseries Ltd., Grimsby
Westbrook Floral Ltd., Grimsby

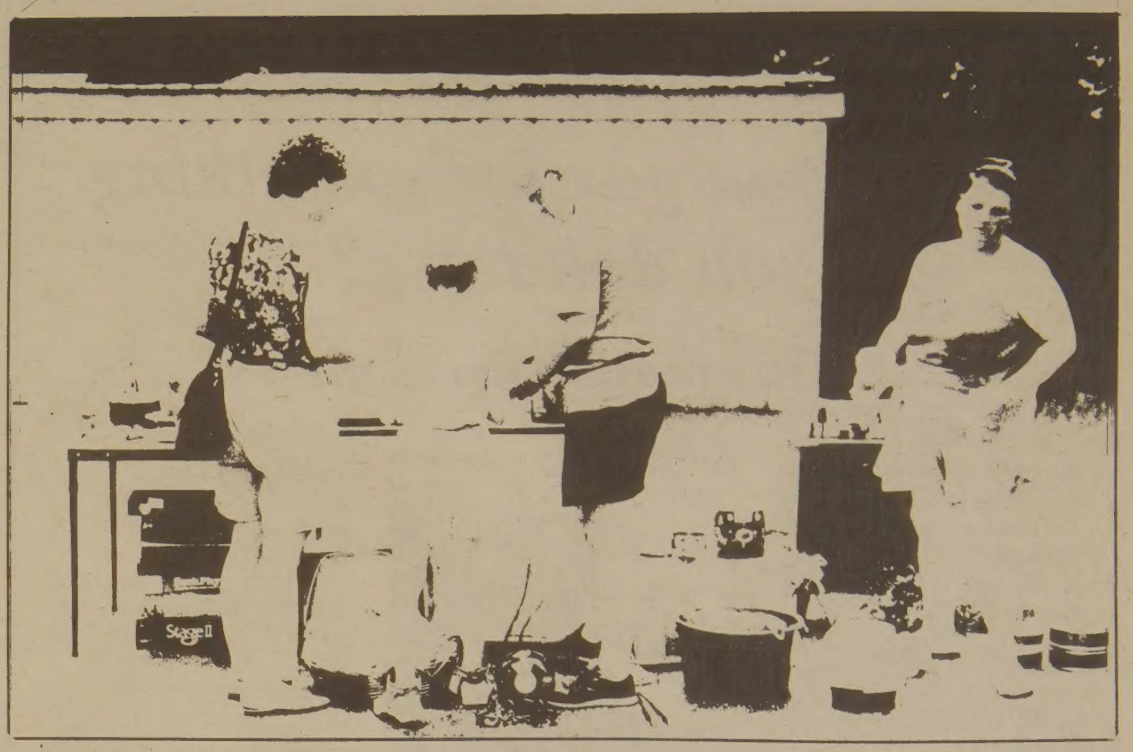
$75,000
Basic Technologies Corp., Welland
TRW Canada Ltd., St. Catharines

$60,000
The Bank of Montreal
Niagara Credit Union, St. Catharines
The Royal Bank

$50,000
Court Industries Co. Ltd., St. Catharines
Hayes-Dana Inc., St. Catharines
The PBB Group Inc., Fort Erie
Rogers/Maclean Hunter
Rotary Club of St. Catharines, St. Catharines
James Urlocker, St. Catharines

$25,000 - $49,000
The Branscombe Foundation, Niagara Falls
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
Canadian Niagara Power Company, Fort Erie
Commisso's Food Terminal, St. Catharines
Lubrizol Canada Ltd., Niagara Falls
Pilot Insurance Co., Toronto
The Rotary Club of Welland

$10,000 - $24,000
Brock Ford Mercury Sales Ltd., Niagara Falls
Canada Trust
Club Roma, St. Catharines
Dominion of Canada General Insurance, Toronto
Family Savings & Credit Union, St. Catharines
Farr Mercury Sales Ltd., Welland
Honeywell Canada, North York
Ed Learn Ford Sales Ltd., St. Catharines
Mutual Life of Canada, Waterloo
Nemeth Lincoln-Mercury, St. Catharines
Niagara Duty Free Shops Inc. Niagara Falls
Scotia Bank
Sheehan & Rosie Insurance Ltd., St. Catharines
Al Slattery Ford Sales Ltd., Welland
TD Bank



Angie Spence, of Waterloo, Ont., and her son Ryan shop for bargains with Joe Blu, on Guelph Street in Kitchener, Ont., in June 1995.

The hunt for hidden treasures begins in your own backyard

By RON WOLF
Staff Writer

Forget Captain Cook's lost treasure or the Incas' city of gold. Ontario's garage sales are where the real treasures can be found.

In the past I have found some amazing deals and even unique items. I was bitten by the garage sale bug years ago and I can't pass a sale without stopping.

Over the years I learned my lesson. It's easy to get ripped-off by some shady character who claims something works. In fact, it half works.

Once, I bought an electric can opener for $2. The seller claimed the motor worked. The motor worked great, but the blade didn't.

There are lots of stories in the world of bargain hunting, from lost treasures to garbage.

Over the years I vowed never to be ripped off again, so I made a small list of what's hot and what's not.

Before purchasing items guaranteed for life find where these items can be taken for an in-store exchange.

Big department stores, such as Canadian Tire, might offer you a full in-store exchange. If they sell it, they exchange it. The list of merchandise and refunds varies from store to store so beware.

Hand tools such as wrenches, socket sets, saws, screwdriver sets and tool boxes, can be exchanged for the same item at stores such as Canadian Tire.

Plastic food keepers with a lifetime guarantee are hot at garage sales. Rubbermaid items are just one of the big namebrands.

Certain glassware items, such as Princess House, offer the purchaser half price exchanges on broken or cracked items. Mag-Light and Energizer flashlights offer the same guarantees.

The list is as endless as the merchandise these stores sell.

Angie Spence, from Waterloo, purchased Princess House glassware at a garage sale in Kitchener in August 1994.

"I recognize them (Princess House) as an exclusive product because they are guaranteed for life. If you break one you get a replacement for half price," said Spence.

"I purchased a set of two glass coffee cups for $2, they are worth $25 for both new."

Spence also purchased Lego blocks for her nine-year-old son Ryan at the same sale.

"I got 10 gallons (of Lego) for $5. It's worth at least $100 or more."

In the same month Spence said she purchased a Canadian Tire tool box from a garage sale.

"One latch was broken (on the tool box) so I got a replacement in return. Those things (Canadian Tire products) are really guaranteed for life."

Joe Blu, from Kitchener, has been going to garage sales for "a long time now, at least 10 years, all over."

"I bought a three-piece brass-coated fireplace tool kit. When I took it home (I found) it was solid brass. I bought it for $5, it's worth $145 at an antique store in Stratford."

Nancy Kimsey, a first-year Journalism-Print student at Niagara College, purchased an antique silver locket for 25 cents in 1992.

"I knew it was silver when I saw it. I couldn't believe that I found such a beautiful piece amongst junk jewelry. I think it's about 100 years old. What a deal."

Stephanie Turton, a first-year Journalism-Print student at Niagara College, bought an alligator skin purse for 30 cents in the summer of 1994.

"I was coming home from work when I saw a small lawn sale. I wasn't really expecting to find anything, so I was surprised to get such a great deal." The medium-sized purse sells for anywhere from $300 to $400.

Animal figurines, autographs, banks, beer cans, bubblegum cards, Cabbage Patch dolls, comic books, cookie jars, radios, handpainted neckties, military items, Pez dispensers, pocket knives, salt and pepper shakers and tools are some garage sale items.

I purchased a replica bubble gum machine for $10. When I opened it I found it filled with $9 worth of pennies, nickels, and dimes.

Recently, I purchased a six-battery Mag-Light flashlight for $5. Retail can range anywhere from $26 to $45.

Treasures can be found on Pacific Islands — or your own backyard.

STAFF SCENARIOS

English teacher laughs about being 'too paranoid'

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

If you see this young, stylish woman walking through the halls of Niagara College, you would probably assume she is a student. Don't be deceived.

Linda Maj, 28, grew up in Welland before attending the University of Western Ontario in London, Ont., where she studied English and drama.

After graduation, Maj travelled alone through Europe for six months, visiting many countries including Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece.

"I started my trip at my grandparents' house in Ireland and ended my trip at my grandparents' house in a small village south of Budapest in Hungary.

"Since then, I've visited Europe every summer but not under the same conditions that I did the first time."

She said she can't afford to go on such a long trip again. Although she was backpacking, it was still expensive.

While in Europe, Maj went to a concert in Berlin at Potsdamerplatz, the site of the former Berlin Wall.

Among the performers were Roger Waters, who played music from Pink Floyd's The Wall, Cyndi Lauper, Van Morrison, and the Chieftains.

Maj said it will make an interesting story to tell her grandchildren but she has sworn never to go to a major concert event again.

"It was hell. It was just awful.

"If you've ever seen pictures of the original Woodstock or the most recent Woodstock, everyone's covered with mud and it looks like they're having so much fun — it's not fun at all."

When she returned to Canada, she attended Concordia University in Montreal, Que., to study theatre design.

She's held several jobs such as teacher's assistant at St. Joseph's elementary school in Grimsby, CHRW Radio at the University of Western Ontario and waitressing.

"At one point, I wanted to design sets and costumes for the theatre."

'Oh my God, it doesn't stop. She is like that.' — Linda Maj said about herself

Maj returned to Welland and for the last three years has been an English professor at Niagara College. Her job has put her in contact with some of today's hottest performers.

One of the courses she teaches is Canadian Lyrics, an English elective which focuses on listening to and interpreting the stories of contemporary Canadian songwriters.

She needs legal permission to copy lyrics and materials, to play the songs and to show videos in the classroom. Maj contacts performers by telephone or by fax.

Personal contact has been made with Spirit of the West, a popular Vancouver-based band and she has received a call from Leonard Cohen's Los Angeles office.

"It was just a matter of the receptionist saying yes, you can use it, but it was still pretty exciting."

Meeting a variety of people and staying home when she doesn't have early classes is something she enjoys. Such a flexible schedule makes her feel she's "not really in reality."

In a March interview, Maj said having the summer free was another benefit.

"I don't care how frustrating my year can be, I would take 10 times more to have the four months off."

This year, however, she worked for half the summer term ending in late July.

Maj said she thought she wouldn't like it but was surprised.

"Actually, I'm enjoying June more than May and I was off in May for four weeks. It's completely different."

She doesn't know if she'll continue as a teacher.

"When things are going really well, I think yes (about continuing) but then there are times where it becomes really nerve-racking and I say this is it. I've got three years now on my resume and I'll never do this again."

Asked to describe herself, Maj said she is sensitive, thoughtful and funny.

"I'm working on really intelligent," she said laughing, "and I'm a little bit too paranoid."

Enthusiastic is another word she uses and she feels sometimes people see her as insincere because of it.

"I guess that's just my manner.

Linda Maj, an English teacher at Niagara College, laughs during the interview as she tries to describe herself.
Photo by Debbie Cunningham

"If I were to meet friends of friends for the first time and I'm very excited about meeting them, I think it sometimes comes across as being really fake.

"But then once they get to know me, they realize, 'Oh my God, it doesn't stop. She is like that,'" she laughs.

Generosity is another part of her character.

If she won $1 million, Maj said she would pay off her Ontario Student Assistance Program loan, and buy everyone in her family something important to them, such as a little cottage in Ireland for her mother.

Maj would then do some good with her money. She would like to provide financial support for AIDS research.

Her philosophy of life changes depending on her classroom discussions, she says. She tends to be influenced by what her students say.

Maj said she believes it is important to like yourself and find peace from within. Don't let those around you influence you in a negative way.

Niagara says thank you and farewell to 16 retirees

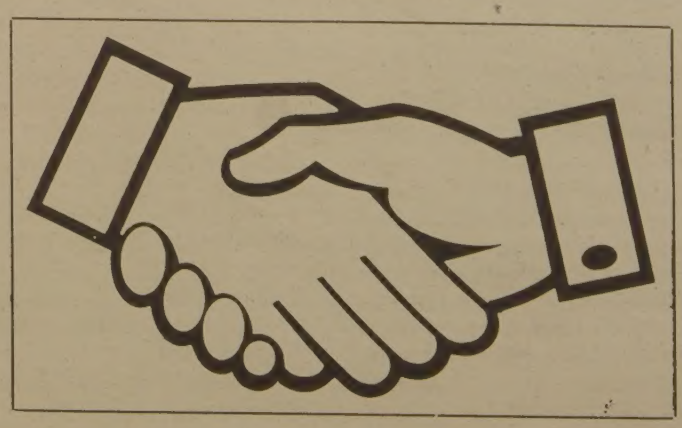
Annual banquet offered guests a 'touch of elegance'

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

Niagara College's retirement banquet on June 16 was "an exciting evening and a very nice chance to be with our many friends," said Sue Reinhart, coordinator of the college's English department.

The third annual retirement banquet, held at the Ameri-Cana Resort and Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, was attended by 160 people including college staff, former retirees, members of the Retirement Committee — organizers of the banquet — and personal guests of this year's retirees.

Also present were Niagara College President John Saso; Vice-President David Schleich, academic; Vice-President Hans van der Slagt, administration; Vice-President Carol Boettcher, student life and human resources; and Vice-President Dan Patterson, Ventures.



There are 16 retirees this year from support staff and faculty:

* Vince Audibert, 26 years
* George Blazetich, 26 years
* Pasquale Calvello, 20 years
* John Cassidy, 27 years
* Elizabeth Christensen, 21 years
* Michael Curcumelli, 21 years
* Dorothy Doyle, 21 years
* Jim Lambert, 24 years
* Elvira Lucas, 24 years
* Diane Mercier, 21 years
* Brian Millard, 24 years
* John Muggeridge, 26 years
* James Nicholas, 27 years
* Connie Scott, 22 years
* Joanne Skog, 22 years
* Christine Wraight, 20 years

"The evening itself was beautiful. The setting was lovely and the meal was delicious," said Reinhart, adding that being entertained by a harp and a violin created "that little extra touch of elegance."

Marlene Cain, manager, accounts receivable, said each retiree was introduced by a colleague and presented with a plaque and a cheque by Saso.

"It is one of those evenings when everyone goes in a very festive mood and it's very positive," said Reinhart.

Depression — a serious medical illness

By JENNIFER TURNER
Staff Writer

Imagine what it would be like to find it hard to laugh, to feel like crying all the time, to be diagnosed clinically depressed.

"I didn't want to do anything. I just stayed home all the time in my room. I didn't want to talk to people most the time," said a female (who wishes not to be named), 20, diagnosed as clinically depressed.

"It's like there was this weight on my shoulders and in my chest weighing me down. I cried a lot. I felt empty inside. I got really hateful. I'd be watching people laughing and having a good time, you know the way it should be, and no matter how hard I tried I just couldn't. I could fake it but you can fool other people but there is no way you can fool yourself."

Depression is a serious illness and most of these people and the people around them don't realize they need help or that there is help.

"People need to know that depression is a transient state and show patience to support that person during that period," said Violette Hagerty, 43, guidance counsellor at Lakeport Secondary School in St. Catharines.

"I really don't know why I felt or feel the way I do," said the college student. "I think it would have been easier to deal with if there was something because it's easier to find a solution if you know what the problem is."

"They know they feel badly and are tired of feeling this way," said Hagerty.

When depressed people are left to deal with the problem on their own, they become desperate and overwhelmed.

"I did get to a point when I was thinking about suicide all the time. It was scary but when you feel that awful you start to look for an alternative," said the St. Catharines resident.

"The reality is if a person wants to kill themselves they will," said Hagerty. "You can't cure someone who does not recognize there is a problem. You can only offer help when help is welcomed. They think suicide is a solution but it isn't."

There are solutions for depressed people. Some work for some people while others do not.

Hagerty said these people need to seek out someone they can trust, to share the weight of their problem and to help them change their perspective.

"The person needs to sense they are not alone. If you find someone who cares about you, you've struck gold," she said.

'The person needs to sense they are not alone. If you find someone who cares about you, you've struck gold.' Violette Hagerty

"I do suggest that they seek out medical attention. It keeps them out of the low. The kids were frightened during the lows. It's not the full answer," said Hagerty.

"Prozac (an anti-depressant), I don't feel, is a miracle drug but it's definitely better. I still can get really bummed but it's not all the time now," said the student, who has been taking Prozac for a year.

"I've tried not taking them (pills) and they wear off really quick and I go back to being the way I was before."

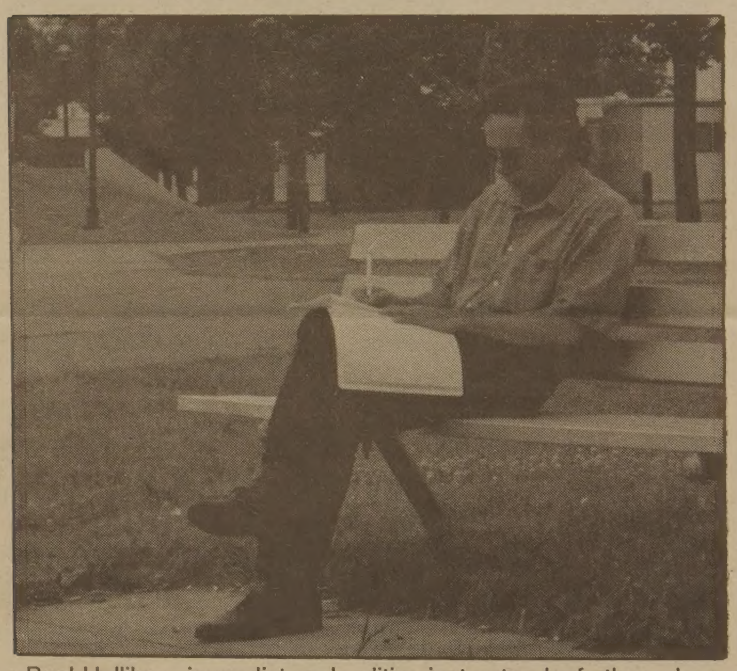
Hagerty said psychotherapy is a good answer.

"It's the only way to eliminate and get to the root."

Friends and family should never turn their backs on the clinically depressed person. Haven't they felt enough pain?

"The best gift you can offer to a depressed person is to be a good listener and stay by them. We have to hold these people in our hands until they are able to fly again," said Hagerty.

Your next vacation should be hassle-free



Paul Hallihan, journalist and politics instructor, leafs through class notes during the summer session.
Photo by Laury Reid

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

To plan a hassle-free vacation, consider contacting Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade for helpful information.

Paul Hallihan, a journalist and part-time teacher at Niagara College, says "it's an excellent idea."

Hallihan says the government has a better idea of what is happening in other countries than the average citizen does. They don't prohibit a person from going but it is a warning.

CANADA

"It's up to the citizen to get information on what's going on in a given country."

Foreign Affairs operates a Travel Information Programme that supplies Canadian travellers with reports on 130 countries.

Because these reports relay current conditions, the reports are constantly being updated regarding health and personal security risks.

"If it's a serious situation, the federal government will quite often put out an advisory through the media," says Hallihan.

"They'll often say if you do go there, check in with the Canadian consulate to let them know you're in the country."

No matter where you are travelling — even the United States — you should take precautions. You may discover there is nothing to worry about or you may save yourself from a nightmare.

An example is Jamaica. Foreign Affairs advises Canadians to be careful in urban areas and to protect themselves from a relatively high risk of street crime — robbery with violence, sexual assault, break-ins, mugging, and snatch-theft.

Hallihan says travellers should also check with the embassy of the country to which they are travelling. These embassies are in Ottawa.

For information call Foreign Affairs' 24-hour, seven-day-a-week service at 1-800-267-6788, or FaxCall at 1-800-575-2500.

Is the love gone?

By SAMANTHA GOLDWIN
Staff Writer

Sports will never be the same.

After the baseball and hockey strikes, I don't feel sports, at least those major sporting events, will ever attract the amount of people they used too. I'm not saying the players or owners are greedy. I just think they got a little side-tracked.

They forgot about their most avid fans — those that watch day in and day out. I feel the people who watch these sports gradually have lost interest — after months of negotiating between the two sides, and then to see it wasn't getting anywhere — lead many fans to watch and take interest in other activities.

Not all fans have stopped watching their main baseball or hockey events on a Saturday or Sunday evening. But there are those who were let down by their teams.

During the strikes, owners must have lost a lot of money. Without the sports being played, no one would be using the stadiums and auditoriums where the major sporting events were being held on a regular basis.

There was a loss in income for all those involved in this non-negotiable mess.

These '95 hockey and baseball seasons have seen a decrease in fan support, and also a decrease in money coming into the sports.

Is there any way in which these worldwide sporting events watched by millions are ever going to be able to recuperate after these major upsets that still haunt them?

Is there any way to play for the love of playing?

Free booklet available to help

By DEBBIE CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

Bon Voyage ... But is a free booklet published by the federal Department of Foreign Affairs and available at your regional passport office.

Some countries require you to have an AIDS test before you go.

Inside, you will find information on everything from learning about your destination to medical concerns and money matters.

There is also a lengthy list of Canadian embassies, High Commissions and consulates abroad. They are there to help in case of emergencies.

Here is a sample of some of the travel hints found in this publication:

* Find out if you have dual citizenship with regards to your destination. In some countries, "nationals" may be required to do military service or pay special taxes. In some countries, you may not be allowed to leave.

* Some countries require you to have an AIDS test before you go. Take your own supply of condoms. Don't assume the country of your destination has them or that the supply meets the standards laid out by the World Health Organization.

Also remember, intravenous or any other type of drug use is illegal and risky.

* If you are staying in a country for more than three months, register with the Canadian Mission so they can contact you in case of an emergency.

* Research the proper dress code. In some countries, there are laws regarding what men and women can and cannot wear in public.

* Never take pictures of military or industrial sites. Your film and camera may be taken or you could be charged with espionage.

* Never cross a border with a hitchhiker, someone you've just met, or take something across a border for someone else. Being accused of drug trafficking or even being associated with someone who is accused or guilty will result in heavy fines, long prison sentences or in some cases, the death penalty.

Take that little extra time to research your trip and bon voyage.